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Islamic peace force proposed

Free navigation; pledges of non-intervention sought

By Elias Haddad and Farouk Loqman

JEDDAH, March 4 — The Islamic goodwill mission to Iran and Iraq Wednesday proposed an Islamic peace-keeping force to police the common border of the two warring countries, high-level diplomatic sources told *Arab News* Wednesday.

The peace force proposal coincided with a statement made Wednesday by Iranian Charge D'Affaires in Saudi Arabia Navaevand stating that his country "respects the resolutions of the Third Islamic Summit."

In remarks published here Wednesday the official also said that Iran appreciates (Islamic) endeavors to end the fighting.

The Islamic summit held in Taif this year decided, among other resolutions, to set up a goodwill peace mission to mediate the Iraq-Iranian armed conflict.

The peace force, the first of its kind to be proposed by the Organization of the Islamic

states of the OIC, interested in the peace and security by the Gulf.

The proposal, among others, was discussed Wednesday by the Iranian Supreme Defense Council chaired by President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr and members of the mission which took part in the Council's meeting in Tehran Wednesday.

The mission, led by President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea also proposed Wednesday to the Iranians a "disengagement of forces," under which Iraqi troops will withdraw from Iranian "territory." The sources declined to say whether the Iraqis will pullout completely from Iranian territories occupied in the six-month old war. Iraq claims to be fighting for the recovery of Arab lands occupied by the previous Iranian regimes since the Ottoman empire early this century. Other proposals the Islamic mission is discussing in Iran and Iraq are mutual pledges of non-intervention or interference in the other's affairs, the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force and respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity," according to the sources.

The sources added that President Sekou Toure, who stated Tuesday that "tangible proposals" will be submitted to both sides, was also demanding free navigation in the

Shatt Al Arab estuary between Iraq and Iran.

Since 1913 Iraq and Iran have been claiming over rights to the ill-defined estuary, and in 1975 President Saddam Hussein, then vice president, and the late Shah of Iran signed the Algiers Agreement under the auspices of late President Houari Boumedjenne.

Both countries have been claiming that the Algiers Agreement was being violated. Under the March 6, 1975 agreement the two countries decided to:

- Define their common land border on the basis of Constantinople Protocol of 1913 and the proceedings of the commission set up to define the border in 1914.
- Define their fluvial border according to the Thälweg line (the deepest point in the water bed between two countries);
- Re-establish security and mutual trust along their common border, and maintain strict and effective surveillance of the border in order to put a complete stop to the infiltration of subversive elements from either side;
- Consider the above provisions an integral components of an overall agreement.

(Continued on back page)

Commander charges 'UNIFIL denied help'

NAQOURA, Lebanon, March 4 (R) — The commander of United Nations peacekeeping troops in Southern Lebanon said they were still being denied cooperation vital to the success of their mission.

Maj.-Gen. William Callaghan of Ireland was speaking Tuesday as the Lebanese government announced it was seeking a meeting of the U.N. Security Council to discuss renewed Israeli attacks in the area.

In an interview with Reuters, Gen. Callaghan said there was no need for the 6,000-strong U.N. Force (UNIFIL) to be given an offensive role, as some Lebanese politicians had claimed. UNIFIL had enough strength for its mandate, if only it was given the cooperation from all sides to which it was entitled, he said.

The Irish officer, who took over command of the force last month, said the targets of Israeli air raids Monday and a heavy artillery duel Tuesday were outside the U.N. zone.

He said: "People have returned to live in our area of operations, farmers are harvesting their crops and villagers are rebuilding their homes. We see this as a tremendous vote of confidence in UNIFIL."

The general said he remained optimistic that UNIFIL could fulfil its mission, but this would need greater cooperation from all parties to the conflict, as well as time, patience and understanding.

Meanwhile, dissident Maj. Saad Haddad's forces Tuesday shelled a primary school at Hasbaya in southern Lebanon wounding 12 children and a teacher, press reports in the region said. Haddad has threatened to destroy Hasbaya which has a population of several thousand.

In another development, an explosion Monday night rocked the Catholic Maronite church in the Southern Lebanese city of Sidon, causing serious damage to the building but no casualties.

Ghazala succeeds Badawi

CAIRO, March 4 (AFP) — Gen. Muhammad Abu Ghazala, commander-in-chief of the Egyptian Army, Wednesday was appointed defense minister and commander-in-chief of the armed forces, it was learned here. He succeeds Gen. Ahmad Badawi who died Monday in a helicopter accident.

Gen. Ghazala, 51 had been army commander in chief since last May. He was in Paris when Badawi and 13 other top army officers were killed in the helicopter crash. President Anwar Sadat summoned him home immediately and he represented the army Tuesday at funeral services for the officers.

Following the funeral, Gen. Ghazala met with Vice-President Hosni Mubarak to study replacements for the dead officers — notably the chiefs of logistics, engineers, military works, training, and the commander of the military zone at the Libyan frontier and his chief of staff, sources said.

The new defense minister spent four years in Washington as military attaché handling contacts with the Pentagon.

Reagan tells Soviets Afghanistan is summit obstacle

WASHINGTON, March 4 (R) — President Reagan said one of the obstacles to a summit meeting with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev would be removed if the Kremlin indicated it would eventually withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

Reagan mentioned Afghanistan when he said in a television interview that "it would help to bring about such a meeting if the Soviet Union revealed it is willing to moderate its imperialism, its aggression."

"Afghanistan would be an example," he told Walter Cronkite of CBS news when questioned about Brezhnev's proposal at the Communist Party congress in Moscow on Feb. 22 that he and Reagan should meet.

"We could talk a lot better if there was some indication that they truly wanted to be a member of the peace-loving nations of the world," he said. The Soviet leader proposed a summit to stop the deterioration in U.S.-Soviet relations beginning with Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in December, 1979, and Reagan's rejection of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty.

However, Soviet officials Wednesday said Moscow had frequently declared a readiness for an eventual troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and they suggested that President Reagan's call for one showed an indication he didn't know the Kremlin's policies.

The officials were speaking privately in response to a request for comment on the remarks made by Reagan in a television interview.

"If that is the only U.S. concern," one Soviet foreign affairs analyst in close touch with officials said Wednesday, "then as soon as the president is acquainted with our statements he should be ready for a summit quickly."

But Reagan's televised remarks, the analyst added, should also indicate "that people in Washington do not want to hear what we

are saying and have no serious interest in a dialogue."

Kremlin Spokesman Vadim Zagladin told a Moscow news conference Tuesday that the Soviet Union is ready to act quickly to arrange a summit in a bid to reach agreements on limiting nuclear weapons and prevent a new spiral in the arms race.

However, the Kremlin will open direct diplomatic discussions with Washington toward an early superpower summit meeting and will not be intimidated by any U.S. military buildup beforehand, a top Soviet Communist Party spokesman said.

Referring to Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev's public proposal last week for a meeting with President Reagan, party spokesman Vadim Zagladin said, "there will be discussions along diplomatic channels of the suggestion already made."

Most Soviet diplomatic initiatives are made through private diplomatic channels, and Brezhnev's decision to call for a summit in the keynote address at the 26th Soviet Communist Party Congress caused some Western politicians to question his sincerity.

U.S. Sen. Henry Jackson, for example, told reporters in Washington this week that the bid for an early summit meant to weaken congressional support for Reagan's proposal to boost defense spending. Zagladin said, "the stockpiling of arms will not settle any

problem, and intimidation will not settle any problem."

"Neither do we intend to intimidate the United States, nor will be intimidated by the growth of military spending or by the emergence of new military technologies, no matter what its cost for the United States," he said.

In another development, the United States may have to postpone a scheduled March 25 meeting with the Soviet Union to review arms control issues, State Department officials said.

The session of the Standing Consultative Commission (SCC) would have been the first direct meeting of the two super-powers on arms control matters since President Reagan took office. The commission, created under the 1972 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty to limit nuclear weapons, is supposed to meet at least twice a year to discuss compliance with the agreement.

State Department officials said the postponement of this month's meeting might be necessary because the administration was still reviewing its policies on strategic arms limitation and also needed to fill several key posts in the national security field.

The department said last month its policy review included questions of alleged Soviet violations of the SALT agreement.

Greece, Turkey considered for Haig's Mideast agenda

ATHENS, March 4 (AFP) — United States Secretary of State Alexander Haig could visit Greece and Turkey early next month during the tour which he has already announced will take him to Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

An authoritative U.S. source said no information was yet available on Gen. Haig's plans, and observers said they could depend on progress in negotiations between Athens and Washington over renewing the agreement on four U.S. bases — two in mainland Greece and two in Crete.

The talks are now in their fifth week and are apparently flagging, although Greek Foreign Minister Constantinos Mitsotakis wants them finished by mid-April and the agreement ratified by parliament by the end of the month.

Diplomatic observers detect some irritation among the American negotiators that as



far as U.S. aid to Greece is concerned, Athens is more worried about the policies of neighboring North Atlantic Treaty Organization partner Turkey than its own overall commitments to the Atlantic alliance. To calm these fears the U.S. has reportedly assured Greece it would prevent any attempt to settle by force the dispute between Athens and Ankara over the Aegean Sea. The Greek team is due this week to give the Americans a list of weapons it requires and details of equipment needed to set up a Greek arms industry.

EEC expresses concern over deficit with Seoul

BRUSSELS, March 4 (AFP) — The European commission is worried about the Common Market's mounting trade deficit with South Korea, it was learned here.

The news was flashed after a talk between EEC President Gaston Thorn and South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Dong Whim, sources close to the European Economic Community (EEC) said.

Dollar spins off recent gains

LONDON, March 4 (AP) — The dollar lost most of its sharp gains of the past three or four trading days Wednesday in a heavy spinoff. Gold prices rose. The dollar fell dramatically in New York after major U.S. banks lowered their prime lending rates to 18.5 per cent and the West German Central Bank upped its rates. The Deutschmark rallied strongly Wednesday.

"In this market, a three pfenning drop overnight isn't really that drastic. People have the perception that prime rates in the U.S. will continue to come off," said one money dealer.

London's five bullion houses fixed a recommended morning gold price of \$475.75 a troy ounce, up from \$472.50 late Tuesday.

In Zurich, the metal was quoted at a median \$474.50, up from \$468.50.

Earlier in Hong Kong, gold rose \$5.12 to close at \$475.51. The metal finished at \$473.00 in New York late Tuesday.

Kampuchea talks planned

BANGKOK, March 4 (AFP) — Thai foreign ministry sources Wednesday disclosed a string of official visits that observers said might represent a new flurry of diplomacy over-war-torn Kampuchea. The sources said Foreign Minister Sithi Sawetasilai will visit Manila March 15 for talks with Filipino Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo. Romulo is chairman of the standing committee of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), which groups Thailand and the Philippines with Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

Old-timers maintain key posts in Politburo

MOSCOW, March 4 (AP) — Here are capsule biographies of the 14 members of the Soviet Politburo, the Soviet Communist Party and government officials. Leonid I. Brezhnev, 74, the most powerful man in the Soviet Union, assumed the leading party post after the ouster of Nikita Khrushchev in 1964 and became president in 1976. An ethnic Russian, he is the son of a steelworker from the Ukraine.

Yuri V. Andropov, 66, has been head of the KGB, the Soviet security police, since 1967 and a member of the Politburo since 1973. An ethnic Russian, he is the son of a railroad employee.

Konstantin U. Chernenko, 69, considered one of Brezhnev's closest associates since 1976, has been party secretary in charge of security and a member of the Politburo. An ethnic Russian, he is the son of a peasant.

Mikhail S. Gorbachev, 50, the youngest member and most recent addition to the Politburo joined the leading body last year and party secretary for agriculture, the most troubled area of the Soviet economy. An ethnic Russian, he is the son of a peasant.

Viktor V. Grishin, 66, chief of the Moscow city party organization since 1967, became a Politburo member in 1971. An ethnic Russian, he is the son of a railroad worker.

Andrei A. Gromyko, 71, a familiar face outside Soviet borders since he traveled to Washington as a diplomat during World War II, has been foreign minister since 1957 and a Politburo member since 1973. He is the son of a Russian peasant.

Andrei P. Kirilenko, 74, another long-time Brezhnev associate, has been a party secretary for internal political problems since 1966, a member of the Soviet parliament since 1950 and a Politburo member since 1962. He is the son of a Russian craftsman.

Dinmukhamed A. Kunayev, 69, since 1964 head of the party organization in the traditionally-Muslim republic of Kazakhstan in Soviet Central Asia, joined the Politburo in 1971. The son of a Kazakhstani collar worker, he is the only non-European with full Politburo status.

Arvid Y. Peishe, 82, is the oldest member of the Politburo and the only member from a Baltic republic. The son of a Latvian peasant, he took part in the 1917 revolution, entered the Politburo in 1966, and heads the watchdog party control commission. He is reputed to be brother-in-law to another Politburo member, Mikhail A. Suslov.

Grigory V. Romanov, 58, head of the Leningrad city party organization since 1970, became a Politburo member in 1976. He is

the son of a Russian peasant.

Mikhail A. Suslov, 78, during more than 20 years as the party's chief ideologist, has firmly put his stamp on Soviet communist thinking and policy. A war-time associate of Brezhnev, he became a Politburo member in 1955 and reputedly played the key role in removing Khrushchev from power. He is the son of a Russian peasant.

Nikolai A. Tikhonov, 75, another member of the Brezhnev circle, joined the Politburo in 1979 and became premier last October when he replaced the retiring Alexei M. Kosygin. Tikhonov is the son of an office worker from the Ukraine, the second largest of the Soviet republics where he spent much of his career.

Dmitri F. Ustinov, 72, became defense minister and a member of the Politburo in 1976 after "years as party secretary in charge of the arms industry. The son of a Russian factory worker, he fought in the 1921-24 civil war and has spent his entire career in military-related activities.

Vladimir V. Sheherbitsky, 63, a Politburo member since 1971, became head of the Ukrainian Communist Party a year later after seven years as head of that republic's government. He is the son of a Ukrainian factory worker.

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Local culture displayed in Saudi art exhibition

RIYADH, March 4 (SPA) — Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdo Yamani opened Tuesday a ten-day Saudi Arts Exhibition in which more than 100 works are displayed.

Some of the paintings also belong to Arab artists of other nationalities. Dr. Yamani said he was impressed particularly by the effort put out by the artists to project Saudi Arabian culture and environment worldwide.

He said there should be permanent exhibitions for Saudi and Arab artists. He also hailed the idea of holding cultural weeks abroad, especially in Europe, to spread Saudi Arabian art. He underlined that whenever a foreigner enters Saudi Arabia, the only image in his mind is that of oil and petroleum installations in the middle of the desert. He does not regard the deep-rooted culture and art that exists in this country. Dr. Yamani was accompanied during the visit by Information Undersecretary Dr. Abdul Aziz Khoja.

In another development in Jeddah, Mecca Deputy Governor Prince Saud bin Abdul Mohsen Tuesday evening opened the 37th exhibition of Saudi artist Abdul Halim Radwi at Al-Taj hall in Ruwais. He was offered a painting by Radwi as a token gift. The prince expressed his appreciation in the visitors' book.

Meanwhile, in Paris, Sports and Youth Minister Jean-Pierre Soisson Tuesday gave a dinner in honor of Prince Faisal bin Fahd, head of the Youth Welfare Organization, who earlier in the day dedicated the First Joint Gulf Cultural Week. The dinner was attended by Saudi Ambassador to Paris Sheikh Jamil Al-Hujailan and a number of senior officials and Arab diplomats.

At the opening ceremony, UNESCO Director General Mokhtar M Bow expressed his thanks and appreciation to Saudi Arabia for its cultural contribution and the assistance it gives the organization. He said that cultural

festivals were an effective way to display the culture of Third World countries.

Prince Faisal soon after announced that he was giving 200,000 French francs to the French society for the handicapped for the International Year of the Handicapped.

On his arrival in Paris in the morning, the prince was met by Prince Muhammad bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz and Sheikh Jamil.

King cables greetings to Morocco

RIYADH, March 4 (SPA) — King Khaled Tuesday cabled his greetings to King Hassan II of Morocco on his country's national day when he was crowned. King Khaled wished him health and happiness and the Moroccan people ever-lasting welfare and prosperity.

In addition, the King received in his desert retreat Tuesday Sheikh Suhaim bin Hamad Al-Thani. The meeting was attended by Prince Sultan, the defense and aviation minister and other members of the royal family.

Meanwhile, Crown Prince Fahd met Tuesday with the Rev. Jessie Jackson who is visiting Saudi Arabia at the invitation of the rector of Riyadh University.

He also received Ibn Ali Al-Suhaymat and Muharram Tabbara, the transport ministers of Jordan and Syria respectively taking part in meetings of the Higher Committee for the Revival of the Hejaz Railway. Communications Minister Sheikh Hussein Mansouri attended the meeting.



COMMEMORATION: Stamps were issued by the Ministry of Post, Telephone and Telegraph commemorating the recent advances in cable and wireless telecommunications under the second five-year development plan which ended last year. Their values are 20,80 and 115 halalas and there are three cards of 100 halalas each.

Finland sees efforts grow in Kingdom

JEDDAH, March 4 — Cooperative ventures and trade between Finland and the Kingdom have grown in the last few years. According to an Embassy of Finland press statement, approximately 1,000 managers, engineers and specialists from Finland now work in the Kingdom and 31 Finnish companies have opened local offices.

Finns have built industrial factories and water treatment plants, and have constructed hotels, hospitals and housing. They also work as advisors, consultants and supervisors in Jeddah, Riyadh, the Eastern Province, the Asir and Northern Province, according to the embassy report.

Finns also are surveying the Red Sea and producing new sea charts, the report added. In addition, traditional exports from Finland exceeded SR2 billion. The main exports are based on Finland's natural resources, of forests with exports being good, paper and other wood processed products, the embassy reported. The remaining exports include machinery, electrical equipment, steel structures and glass products.

According to the embassy, Finns have been studying the Third Five Year Plan and its implications. They will do their best to propose solutions to problems and to contribute to the development of the Kingdom both at the official level and in the private sector. Exchanges of ministerial visits as well as official and commercial delegations have contributed to economic cooperation, the report added.

Weathering research begins at KAU

By Ahmad Khuroo

JEDDAH, March 4 — The Faculty of Engineering, King Abdul Aziz University launched a research program last month to study the effects of weathering on plastic and rubber equipment used in the Kingdom, according to a university source.

The program will study the changes in the molecular structure of plastic and rubber materials through various techniques like infra-red and ultra-violet analysis. The program also involves the compiling of engineering data to get a better perspective on the durability of these materials.

Plastic is used in the Kingdom in a great number of applications, mostly for construction, agricultural, packaging and domestic purposes.

By gathering data, the researchers aim to evaluate the performance, durability and expected life of plastic and rubber components in the unexpected climatic changes of Saudi Arabia.

Toward this end, Dr. J. R. Crowder of the British Building Research Establishment will present a paper on "The Weatherability of Materials" on March 10 at the College of Engineering.

Chevron official appointed

JEDDAH, March 4 — Vaughn O. Fitzpatrick has been appointed deputy representative of Arabian Chevron, Inc., a subsidiary of Standard Oil Company of California, with headquarters in Riyadh, a company press statement said Wednesday.



Vaughn Fitzpatrick

Fitzpatrick, JD, Tulane Law School, and his wife Mary have spent several years preparing themselves for a career in the Middle East, studying Arabic language and Islamic history in Lebanon and Oxford. During the period of his law studies, Fitzpatrick clerked for law firms in Cairo, Egypt, Manama and Bahrain.

COMMENT

By Muhammad Omar Al-Amoudi
Al Medina

You need not be surprised if one day you read in the newspaper that a research scholar in science has obtained a doctorate in confectionary from an American university! Sometime ago I read in an Egyptian paper that a scholar obtained a doctorate from an American university in "stewed beans".

Again, it shouldn't come to you as a surprise that someone is preparing his thesis at London University on the "dialect of the Spartans." Only the other day, I learned that an Indian scholar, who hardly speaks Arabic, has obtained his doctorate from London University on the "dialect of the people of Saudi Arabia's region of Gbamed and Zahran".

When our young men and their compatriots from the countries of the Third World work on such subjects at American

and European universities, it raises a question whether those universities do it purposely, so that these countries should always need their experts and scientists in vital fields of knowledge?

What confirms such thinking is the fact that we have never heard an American preparing his thesis on "steak and hamburger and their effect on development in the United States." Also, we would not hear an Italian working to obtain a doctorate on the "strategy of spaghetti" or the "influence of pizza on the people's morals"!!

Therefore, in our world, the ministries of education and universities ought to be responsible for guiding, or even interfering, in the selection of research subjects in conformity with the needs of their countries. The subjects should be so novel as to add to human knowledge in many fields in which even the Europeans, Americans and Japanese have not yet excelled.

Prayer Times

Thursday	Mecca	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5.13	5.16	4.47	4.35	4.59	5.30
Ishraq (Sunrise)	6.38	6.41	6.12	6.00	6.24	6.55
Dhuhr (Noon)	12.32	12.33	12.04	11.51	12.16	12.45
Assr (Evening)	3.55	3.55	3.27	3.13	3.37	4.06
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.28	6.27	5.58	5.44	6.09	6.37
Isha (Night)	7.58	7.57	7.28	7.14	7.39	8.07

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Badawi's death a big blow

Efficacy of Egypt's army not affected

CAIRO, March 4 (AP) — The death of Defense Minister Ahmed Badawi in a helicopter crash Monday came as a "terrible shock" to Egypt's 367,000-strong armed forces, but has not affected their effectiveness as the Middle East's largest fighting force, a top officer at the ministry of defense said Tuesday. The blow is deeply felt in the Egyptian government, in which the military has played an important role for the past three decades.

The officer, who declined use of his name, told AP that Badawi's death along with 13 other top-ranking officers had created "great pain and sorrow in the armed forces. It's had a very bad impact on all of us."

But he hastened to add that it was "a psychological, sentimental effect more than a tactical one. As a human being, he was a very nice man, always had the time to listen to his men and talk to them" the Egyptian officer said.

But as an efficient and organized military

Top award for support

Iraq decorates Jordan king

BEIRUT, March 4 (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has decorated King Hussein of Jordan with Iraq's most distinguished military medal in appreciation of Jordanian support in the Gulf war. The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted President Hussein as telling the King Tuesday when he presented the Faidain Medal, 1st Class, that Iraq appreciated Jordan's "courageous stand in supporting Arab rights."

King Hussein arrived in Baghdad earlier in the day on his third visit to Iraq since the war

U.K. may reactivate Cyprus bases

AKROTIRI, Cyprus, March 4 (AP) — This giant British airbase in the eastern Mediterranean, idle for years, is likely to be reactivated soon, following Britain's announced readiness to join the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) to protect the Arab Gulf oilfields. But such a development might well disturb relations between Britain and Cyprus and touch off a political controversy on the divided island.

"Certainly we will be ebagnined if the (British) bases are used against the interests of our Arab friends," Cypriot Foreign Minister Nicos Rolandis told AP in an interview Tuesday. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher stated during her visit to the United States last week her government would be ready to contribute to the American-proposed multinational force. Her statement has been attacked by the British Labor opposition and come under strong criticism by the press in the Gulf states.

Rolandis said his government had received no notification as yet that the two British

Hassan favors talks with Benjedid

Morocco will never give up Sahara

RABAT, March 4 (AP) — King Hassan II of Morocco has declared that Western Sahara was part of his country and he would never give it up. Speaking on the 20th anniversary of his coronation Tuesday, Hassan said the door remained open to Algeria for a peaceful solution but Morocco would deal from a position of strength.

Algeria supports the Polisario fighters who are battling Morocco for the former Spanish colony which the fighters want to make an

unit, the Egyptian armed forces would continue unaffected. "It's not a man-system, based on one man, it's a whole and complete system" the officer said. We learned our lesson. Before, when the man left, the whole system collapsed, but now the system no longer relies on one man," he added.

Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, former defense minister, holds the rank of general vice-President Hosni Mubarak is an air force general. Badawi was one of the officers purged in the wake of the 1967 war. The daily *Al Gomharye*, in its obituary Tuesday, said: "But in spite of the bravery, he and a number of his colleagues were arrested in 1967 and when they were released in 1968 were forcibly retired."

Badawi was reinstated in the military in 1971, one of President Anwar Sadat's remedial measures undertaken in his so-called corrective revolution and was appointed commander-in-chief of the armed forces in 1978.

begin in September. Officials accompanying him included Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the Army Commander-in-Chief Lieut-Gen. Zeid Ben Shaker.

"Jordan's stand was in defense of not only Iraq's usurped national rights but also of the Arab nation, honor and values," the president told the King. INA did not indicate the duration of the royal visit. But the official Jordanian news agency Petra said the monarch would exchange views on the Arab situation and bilateral relations.

sovereign base areas on the island, the Akrotiri air base and Dhekelia, a sprawling military cantonment and depot, might be utilized for RDF operations. But a Western who declined to be identified said it would be "logical to assume" Britain would use its Cyprus bases because of the location of the island.

Nestled in the northeastern corner of the Mediterranean, Cyprus is the nearest British base to the Straits of Hormuz, 7,500 miles to the southeast, the narrow entrance to the Gulf. The second closest British base is on the tiny island of Diego Garcia in the middle of the Indian Ocean almost twice as far from the region as Akrotiri.

John Chambers, chief spokesman of the British Middle East headquarters in Cyprus, declined to comment on the possibility of the reactivation of Akrotiri or its involvement with the RDF. The huge facility was used as a base for Britain's nuclear bomber force until the early 1970s. Currently, the only British aircraft based there Chambers said, are three helicopters, used mainly for rescue missions.

Tigre Front traps 4,000 Ethiopians

KHARTOUM, March 4 (AP) — Fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front have trapped over 4,000 government troops in Ethiopia's northernmost province of Tigre, dealing a stunning blow to an initial Soviet-backed offensive, a spokesman for the fighters said Tuesday. Mobile units of the TPLF launched a surprise attack Feb. 28 on mechanized government forces as they approached western fighters strongholds from the garrison town of Endeselassie, spokesman Yemane Kidane said.

He said the fighters killed or wounded 420 of the Ethiopian force, which was supported by Soviet-supplied helicopter gunships and MiG jet fighters, in a seven-hour battle that ended in encircling the government troops.

PLO establishes Prague office

PRAGUE, March 4 (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organization established a permanent representative here Tuesday, according to PLO spokesman. The chairman of Czechoslovak National Front and Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's political department, signed a protocol establishing permanent PLO offices in Prague to "promote many-sided relations" between Czechoslovakia and Palestinians.

According to Gazzi Hussein, the PLO's observer at the United Nations in Vienna, Prague was the only East European capital where the PLO did not have a permanent representative stationed. "We want to continue building relations with East Europe," Hussein said in Vienna. "Government representation is very important in that task."

Jordan to get U.S. copters

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP) — The Pentagon has told Congress it wants to sell Jordan that country's first Cobra helicopters armed with antitank tow missiles. It made public a letter of offer to Jordan that would cover the sale of 24 AH-1S helicopters armed with tow missiles as well as 20-MM guns for about \$156 million. "Because of the increasing tank density among neighboring countries of the Middle East and Jordan's numerical inferiority by comparison," Jordan must improve its anti-armor defenses, the Pentagon said in a statement Tuesday.

"Acquisition of AH-1S helicopters will give Jordan a moderate antitank helicopter capability"

BRIEFS

DACCA, (R) — At least 13 persons were killed and several hundred others injured when a cyclone swept through a chain of villages north of Dacca Monday evening, according to delayed reports reaching here.

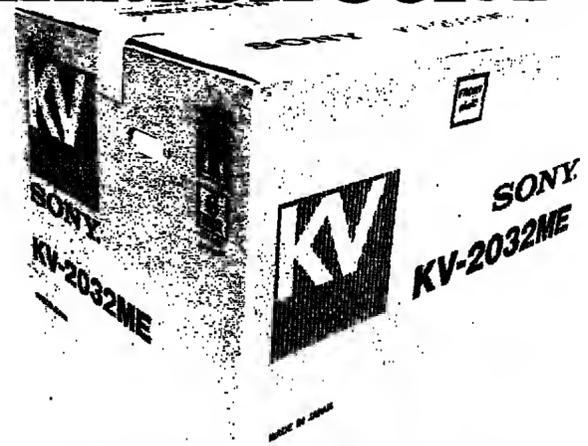
TEL AVIV, (AP) — Lt. Gen. Aphael Eytan, the military chief of staff, alleged Tuesday that Palestinian commandos in Lebanon had 60 Soviet tanks supplied to them by Hungary, Israel radio said.

TEL AVIV, (AP) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir has an audience with Pope John Paul II Friday, probably to continue a long and fruitless discussion over the status of Jerusalem.

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U.N. debate on Namibia

Action against S. Africa urged

UNITED NATIONS, March 4 (Agencies) — Japan, a member of the U.N. Security Council, told the General Assembly Tuesday strong international action should be considered if South Africa keeps blocking independence for Namibia (Southwest Africa). The Soviet Union, another council member, said it favored such action now.

Japanese Ambassador Masahiro Nishihori told the assembly's debate on Namibia that last January's U.N. Geneva conference could not agree on a date for a ceasefire in the territory "because of the intransigent attitude of South Africa."

"If the intransigent attitude of South Africa results in the failure of the international community's effort," he said, "the international community will have no alternative but to consider further measures to assure South Africa's compliance."

Nishihori did not specify the measures he had in mind. Security Council, which can impose sanctions on any country it deems to be threatening international peace, has called repeatedly for South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia and said its continued presence there could be detrimental to peace.

Soviet Ambassador Ricard S. Ovinnikov

told the assembly debate his government favored "the adoption of decision aimed at securing as early as possible genuine independence for Namibia."

"The application by the Security Council of comprehensive and binding sanctions... would be an entirely effective step in that direction, and the Soviet delegation supports this proposal."

The assembly, in the second day of debate on Namibia, is expected to vote this week on a resolution calling on the Security Council "to convene urgently to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions" to force South Africa out of Namibia. The general expectation is that the resolution will pass the assembly but be vetoed in the council by one or more big Western countries. The Africans then will probably get an emergency session of the assembly to push their cause further.

Speaking Tuesday night on behalf of the 10 members of the European Economic Community (EEC) Netherlands' Ambassador Hugo Scheltema expressed deep disappointment at the failure of the Geneva meeting and urged South Africa to reconsider its position.

Meanwhile, President Reagan said Monday the United States could not shandon South Africa, a war-time ally and producer of essential minerals, and praised the record of many South Africans in trying to erase apartheid.

Reagan said in a television interview that the United States should not drop its concern about human rights in South Africa. "I think, though that there's been a failure, for political reasons in this country, to recognize how many people, black and white, in South Africa are trying to remove apartheid and the steps they've taken and the gains they've made," he said.



UNWELCOME PRESENCE: South African representative Adriaan Eksteen (eyeglasses) raise an arm in the United Nations Tuesday to get the permission of Assembly President Ruediger Von Weizsacker to speak on Namibia when the assembly resumed its debate. When Eksteen's presence was made known, the assembly president adjourned the session only 10 minutes after it began.

Soviets agree to pay arrears of wildlife panel

NEW DELHI, March 4 (AP) — The Soviet delegation to a wildlife conference, embarrassed by a disclosure that its country is behind on dues to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), has promised to pay up. "They were so embarrassed that they called for a special meeting of the cities secretariat and promised to pay up within three months," Peter Sand, CITES secretary general, told a reporter here Tuesday.

The dues involved are \$54,656,40 a annual fees for 1980 to the CITES secretariat, which seeks to curb illegal trade in wildlife and its products, such as ivory and furs.

CITES also attempts to harmonize the needs of commercial wildlife trade and conservation so that endangered species are not wiped out.

The United States is the principal founder of the organization. It pays one quarter of the annual budget of about \$50,000. Apart from the Soviet Union, other defaulting countries included Italy (\$16,987), East Germany (\$6,844) and Iran (\$5,200).

Nineteen of the 67 member-nations of CITES are behind in their dues, an official document said.

The conference began here Feb. 25 and is to conclude March 8. It is studying if there are any fresh flora and fauna species which should be listed in danger of extinction.

Actor Morris injured

LAS VEGAS, March 4 (AP) Greg Morris, 47, who plays a tough but fair police detective on the TV series "Vegas" was injured when his car went out of control and flipped over as he was driving from California to his Las Vegas home, authorities said Tuesday.

Chinese silent for 24 years

PEKING, March 4 (AP) — A man hiding his past association with a Japanese puppet government in China masqueraded 24 years as a deaf-mute, even hiding his mouth at night to keep from talking in his sleep, a Canton newspaper reports.

He astounded his co-workers in a Jiangxi province crematorium last July by suddenly declaring, "I'm not mute. My real name is Hsueh Ching-Tao. I have been pretending to be mute," the Yangcheng Evening News reported. At night, it said, he slept concealed in mosquito netting with a scarf tied around his mouth.

What finally prompted Hsueh to talk was report he spotted in a newspaper. The news concerned China's Jan. 1, 1980, criminal law, and its time limit for prosecution of certain crimes. Hsueh rushed to a bookstore to buy a full explanation of the law, studied it secretly, decided he was safe and finally talked, the paper said.

The paper's Saturday edition, seen in Peking Tuesday, said that in 1940, Hsueh belonged to a guerrilla band under a handit

who surrendered to the Japanese and became a traitor. After three years in which he rose to company commander, Hsueh took some troops and went over to the Communist forces.

But again his commander changed sides and Hsueh fled, later obtaining a job with the help of a member of the Communist underground, the paper said. In 1952, it added, he learnt that somebody had brought up his past and that he was about to be seized for his past connection with the government of Wang Ching-wei, an anti-Communist puppet regime set up by Japan in the former Chinese capital of Nanking in 1940.

He lived with relatives in Shanghai for several years and then in 1957 set out wandering, starting to act as a deaf-mute to avoid revealing his past, the Evening News said. When he finally talked, it said, authorities investigated, found his story was true and last December sent him home for a reunion with family members he had not see in 29 years.

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Reagan names officials

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AFP) — President Ronald Reagan has named John Holdridge, former deputy chief of the U.S. mission in Peking and former U.S. ambassador to Singapore, assistant secretary of state for east Asian and Pacific affairs. In another of several announced nominations, career diplomat Nicholas Veliotis was named assistant secretary of state for near eastern and south

27 prisoners escape from Mozambican jail

LISBON, March 4 (AP) — Police in the central Mozambique port of Beira have mounted search parties for 27 prisoners who escaped from the city jail during an 18-hour municipal power failure over the weekend, the Portuguese national news agency Anop has reported.

An agency dispatch from the Indian Ocean port Tuesday quoted an official announcement of the Saturday night breakout by the local prosecutor's office. Two additional inmates who joined the escape turned themselves in to authorities hours later, the announcement said.

Anop, citing unconfirmed reports of the incident, reported prisoners at Beira's central prison rioted after the city lost electricity and water distribution at 8:30 p.m. Saturday. The report indicated one inmate suffered gunshot wounds during the disturbances.

Asian affairs.

Chester Crocker, an expert on African affairs on the National Security Council under President Richard Nixon, was nominated for the post of assistant secretary of state for African affairs. Robert Hormats, current assistant to the U.S. trade representative, was chosen as assistant secretary of state for economic affairs. Myer Rashish, an economic adviser to President John Kennedy, was named undersecretary of state for economic affairs.

Still to be announced are the assistant secretaries of state for European and Latin American affairs. The European post was expected to go to Lawrence Eagleburger, currently ambassador to Yugoslavia and Reagan's special envoy to western European countries on the situation in El Salvador. But Eagleburger's selection has run into opposition from the ultra-conservative Republicans in Congress.

Meanwhile, the administration will send a senior State Department official on a broad Asian tour later this month for its first such official exchange of views, informed sources said in Bangkok Wednesday. John Negroponte, deputy assistant secretary of state for east Asian and Pacific affairs, is to visit Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Burma and China in that order from March 13 to April 4.

BRIEFS

LONDON, (AP) — Buckingham Palace announced details Tuesday of Queen Elizabeth II's autumn tour of Australia, New Zealand and Sri Lanka. She will visit Australia Sept. 26 to Oct. 12 for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Melbourne before spending eight days in New Zealand with her husband, Prince Philip. They will then pay a state visit to Sri Lanka Oct. 21 to 25.

MADRID, (AP) — Lt. Gen. Mariano Cuadra Medina, 69, air force minister in the last government of the late Gen. Francisco Franco, died in a hospital here early Tuesday after a heart attack.

BRUSSELS, (AP) — Former Portuguese Foreign Affairs Minister Diogo Freitas do Amaral was elected president Tuesday of the European Union of Christian Democrats.

NEW DELHI, (AP) — Indian army and paramilitary troops Tuesday patrolled regions of Gujarat state where the situation was reported peaceful after more than a month of student unrest, the United News of India (UNI) said. A man injured earlier in a knife attack died Tuesday in a hospital in Ahmedabad city.

HAMBURG (R) — A Hamburg city government minister resigned Tuesday from the board of a company involved in the controversial Brokdorf nuclear power station project which the city government opposes. Finance Minister Wilhelm Noelling told the city senate (government) he was giving up chairmanship of the Hamburg electricity company (HEW) board because he could not reconcile it with his government post.

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Referee stops bout in ninth

Colin Jones batters Harris for crown

LONDON, March 4 (AFP) — British champion Colin Jones, a former grave digger from Wales, stopped Mark Harris of Guyana in nine rounds to win the vacant Commonwealth Welterweight Boxing title at the Wembley Conference Center here Tuesday night.

It was an extraordinary display of one-handed power of the Welshman, Jones knocked Harris down five times, four with the left hook and the fifth with a mighty flurry of punches which left the Guyanese sitting helplessly against the rope with so little chance of going any further that the referee did not even bother to take the count.

The fight was halted after one minute 48 seconds of the ninth round after a performance in which Jones demonstrated just how much better he is than when he won the British title in the same ring a year ago.

On that occasion Jones stopped Kirkland Laing with one mighty right hand punch this time he did not have this particular weapon at his disposal, for it was no secret that the 21-year-old boxer went into the ring with a damaged knuckle on his right hand.

Instead, he used the left hand with great accuracy and wonderful purpose. It was so well delivered that the first knock in the second round was from a jab, though to Harris it

must have seemed like walking into a telegraph pole.

His next visit to the floor was in the sixth from a left hook and the third from a short straight punch early in round nine. The best knockdown was also in the ninth, a beautifully measured left hook which dumped the Guyanese for a count of seven.

At this stage of the proceedings, Jones decided he could risk the right hand flat out and he had Harris for the last time with an equal assortment of lefts and rights from which there was no escape.

Despite his knockdowns, Harris proved to be a good opponent who kept the British champion fully occupied. However, Jones won impressively and he now has two months in which to get his hand in shape against before defending his titles against Laing.

Meanwhile, Johnny Owen of Wales, the 24-year-old British and European bantamweight boxing champion, who died after being knocked out in a world title match with Lupe Pintor of Mexico at Los Angeles last September, left £68,000 to be learnt.

More than £100,000 raised by an appeal fund while Owen was in a coma, has gone to buying hospital equipment. All Owen's hospital fees in the United States were met out of insurance taken out by the fight organizers and the British Board of Boxing Control.

Ball quits Blackpool

BLACKPOOL, England, March 4 (AFP) — Alan Ball, former English football international has resigned as manager of Third Division Blackpool at the request of the club's executive committee.

Under Ball's direction, Blackpool have lost 13 of last 14 games and stand in danger of relegation to the Fourth Division. They currently lie next-to-last in the third.

Ball is the fourth manager to direct the club's fortunes since Allan Brown was fired in February, 1978.

The 36-year-old Ball, who once played 116 games for Blackpool and was in England's World Cup winning side in 1966, is expected to find a position as assistant manager for a First Division Club.

Meanwhile, Manchester City have accepted a bid of £60,000 from American club Portland Timbers for their reserve team goalkeeper, Keim Merae. Merae is thinking over the move and will give the Americans his answer Wednesday.

Portland, coached by ex-City forward Jimmy Conway, bought Willie Donachie and Stuart Lee from Maine Road last season for a combined fee of £ 250,000.

The European Football Union has reminded that at the following players have been suspended from taking part in the first leg of the European Cup quarter-final matches.

European Cup: Tibor Radnec (Banik Ostrava), European Cup Winners Cup: Andrej Geliazkov (Slavia Sofia), Vano Kostov (Slavpa Sofia), Minervino Pietra. UEFA Cup: Brebeni Larsen (Lokeren), Asgeib Sigurvinsson (Standard Liege), Yannick Stopyra (Sochaux).

Nottingham Forest scored a 1-0 victory over Middlesbrough in the English First Division match Tuesday night.

In the postponed Fourth Division matches, Port Vale and Scunthorpe were concerned in a 2-2 draw and Tranmere and Lincoln drew goalless.



VICTOR & VANQUISHED: European light heavyweight boxing champion Ruddy Keopmans of the Netherlands (left) shakes hands with challenger Hocme Tafer of France after his victory at the Combertin Stadium recently.

Green signal for Jackman England's tour to go on

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, March 4 (AFP) — England's trouble-torn tour of the West Indies was given the go-ahead early this morning at the end of a tense Caribbean summit meeting here.

The dramatic breakthrough came at the end of two full days' debate between government representatives from Barbados, Antigua, Jamaica and Montserrat over whether controversial Surrey pace-bowler Robin Jackman should be allowed to play.

The tour was threatened last week when Jackman, who had been called out as a replacement for the injured Bob Willis, was expelled by Guyana for having played in South Africa.

The second Test match against the West Indies, due to be held in Guyana, was called off and it was made clear that if other islands took the same attitude, England would pack their bags for home.

The news that the England party were waiting so anxiously for came in the form of a joint statement issued by Barbados's foreign affairs minister, Henry Forde.

It said that the remainder of the tour should be permitted to continue as scheduled with no strings attached.

The lengthy statement said the government concerned had been guided not only by the 1977 Gleneagles Commonwealth agreement on sports contacts with apartheid countries, but also by the United Nations declaration against apartheid in sports adopted in December 1977.

The four island governments were in agreement with both these declarations, but pointed out that they did not deal with the question of sanctions against the nations of other countries who engage, on an individual basis, in sporting activities in South Africa.

Rahim to lead Jeddah squad

JEDDAH, March 4 — Cricket in Saudi Arabia will take another step forward in early April when teams from Jeddah and Riyadh take the field here in Jeddah for the first ever inter-city challenge match.

Choosing the Jeddah team posed several problems, but the selectors, headed by Sheikh Zaim Alireza, decided to take form as their main priority and picked a mixed squad of fourteen players from the Alireza and B&H leagues who are currently playing at their best.

Leading the team will be Tariq Abdul Rahim, whose team, Yellow Rose, are lying second in the Alireza League with Nadim of Red Sea as vice-captain. Ten teams are represented in the squad, reflecting the spread of talent in the Jeddah League. The batting order could well be headed by Shafiqat (Shalimar) and Shabbaz Anwar (Pak. Saudi) with support from Tariq (ICC) and Nasser (Ind. Embassy).

The attack will be led by pace bowlers Assad Ansari (Yellow Rose) and Nadim with spin support from Shabid Amin (1395), Asim Shah (Sikander) and Nasim Khan (Pak. Saudi). The all-rounders include Samim Ansari (NAI) and Gulraiz (Hochief), with Fervaz Safdar (Red Sea) and John Noakes (1395) completing the squad.

BRIEFS

ENGLAND, (AP) — Britain's Olympic gold medal runner Sebastian Coe was fined £17 Tuesday for speeding — behind the wheel of a car. Coe's presence was not required as the magistrates court ordered the fine after the middle-distance runner pleaded guilty to driving about 57 miles per hour (91 km) in a 30 miles per hour (48 km) zone last December.

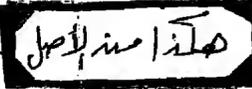
DUBLIN, (AFP) — The Indian badminton team thrashed Ireland 7-0 here Tuesday night. The Indians were so dominant they dropped only two games during the whole of the match.

BOSK, (AFP) — The International Ski Federation has rejected an American protest seeking to deprive Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark of the 15 points he earned in the combined for competing in the Hahnenkamm Downhill at Kitzbuhel, Austria, in January.

ESTORIL, Portugal (AP) — Race drivers from 17 nations put their high-performance cars through final tests at this seaside resort Tuesday, the eve of the seventh Portugal-Port Wine Rally, one of the toughest endurance courses on the international circuit.

JACA, Spain (AP) — Soviet sports reporter Sergei Shachin was reported missing Tuesday from the press camp at the University Winter Games. There was speculation he may have crossed the nearby border into France to ask for political asylum.

HANOVER, (AFP) — Roman Hermann of the Lichtenstein and Horst Schutz of West Germany won the Hanover six days Cycling Classic which ended here Monday night narrowly edging the Belgian Danish duo of Patrick Sercu and Gerit Frank.



King returns with a bang Dibley trounces Fillol

DENVER, Colorado March 4 (AP) — Colin Dibley of Merrickville, Australia, took just 45 minutes Tuesday to knock out Jaime Fillol of Santiago, Chile, 6-1, 6-2, in a first-round match at the \$125,000 United Bank Tennis Classic here.

Fillol, who won another Volvo Grand Prix Tournament in Mexico City on Sunday, said he had trouble adjusting from the slow clay courts there to Denver's faster synthetic surface.

In other first-round action, No. 5 seed Terry Moor advanced into the second round by defeating Robert Van't Pof, 6-3, 7-6. Andrew Patison of Pretoria, South Africa, had an easy time with 18-year-old American Scott Davis, taking their match 6-3, 6-3.

Third-seeded John Sadri had to struggle with Steve Krulvitz. He capitalized on a Krulvitz double-fault on the third match point to take a 6-1, 3-6, 7-5, victory.

In doubles play, the second-seeded team of Bruce Manson and Ferdi Taygan defeated the team of Eddie Edwards of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Leo Palin of Eypoo, Finland, 7-6, 6-3.

In Los Angeles, Billie Jean King, competing for the first time since undergoing knee surgery last December, took a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Susan Maserin in the \$150,000 Avon Championships of Los Angeles Women's Tennis Tournament.

The 37-year-old King, the tournament's fifth seed, was tentative with her shots in the opening set of the first-round match, but seemed to gain confidence — and efficiency — as the match wore on.

Wendy Turnbull became the second player to drop out of the tournament's singles competition. Tracy Austin, who had been the top seed, withdrew Monday because of a recurring back problem. Turnbull, seeded fourth,

withdrew Tuesday because of a bout with the flu.

Her scheduled first-round opponent, Eva Pfaff of West Germany, thus won the match by default and advances to the next round. Turnbull still expects to play in the doubles competition later in the week, a tournament spokesman said.

In an earlier first-round match Tuesday, sixth-seeded Sylva Hanika of West Germany breezed past South Africa's Jennifer Mundell 6-1, 6-2. Barbara Potter, the No. 8 seed, dominated Sandy Collins in their opening set, but struggled in the second to take a 6-1, 7-5 victory.

In other matches, Anne Smith downed Beth Herr 6-3, 6-1; Glynis Coles defeated Ann Kiyomura 6-4, 6-2; and Bettina Bunge topped Renee Blount 60, 6-1.

The tournament at the forum concludes Sunday, with the singles winner collecting \$30,000.

Iran to boycott World Soccer

TEHRAN, March 4 (AFP) — Iran has decided to boycott the new football World Cup qualifying round which opens in Kuwait in April, according to the Iranian News Agency Pars.

Government sports officials have reportedly chosen to withdraw from the Cup because of Kuwait's attitude toward the Iranian revolution and its stand in the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Iran is a member of the Asia and Oceania World Cup qualifying group three along with Kuwait, Thailand, Malaysia and South Korea.

EMCA all geared up for motocross

By Laurie Thomas

The countdown has begun for Friday's (March 6th) E.M.C.A. Motocross meet: scheduled for a 1-00 p.m. start at their track near the Petromin tank farm on the new Medina Road.

With six races scheduled in four categories, there will be plenty of action for the large crowd expected. Refreshments will be available and spectators will get good value from the modest 10 SR entry fee. The trophy presentation is expected at about 5.00 p.m. and the competition to be amongst the winners will be as high as usual. Josse Binst, Christof Binst, Morgan Rosbo, and Ronnie Tuvsesson will all be expected to mount the rostrum but anything can happen and many of the up-and-coming riders are capable of an upset.

Most of the riders will be regulars in the Jeddah circuit but newcomers are always welcome. Anyone riding for the first time

has to complete a test circuit to prove his competence, so the standard is kept high.

Large numbers of amateur photographers are expected to be roving the motocross area snapping away in an attempt to collect a prize in the Ahmad Fitaibi Arab News photo-contest. This new added dimension to the meet many also bring some unnecessary dangers if photographers became too ambitious. Everybody involved in the competition should

remember that during the races only EMCA officials are permitted onto the track. Everyone is advised to check with track officials before going anywhere away from the main spectator area.

Entries in the photo contest must be accompanied by the entry form, printed below, and should include a description of the photo, explaining who the rider is, what race, and any details concerned with the action.

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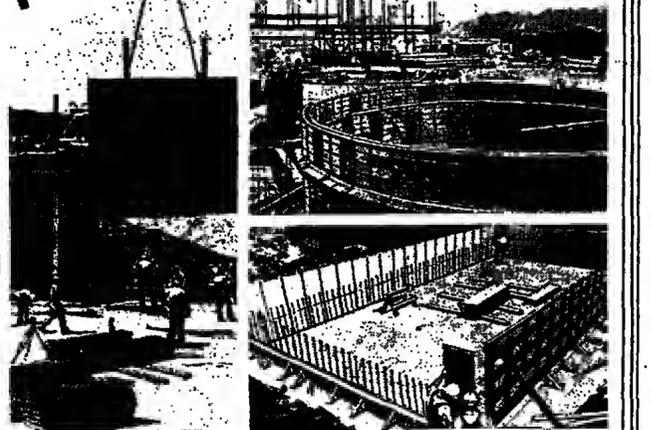
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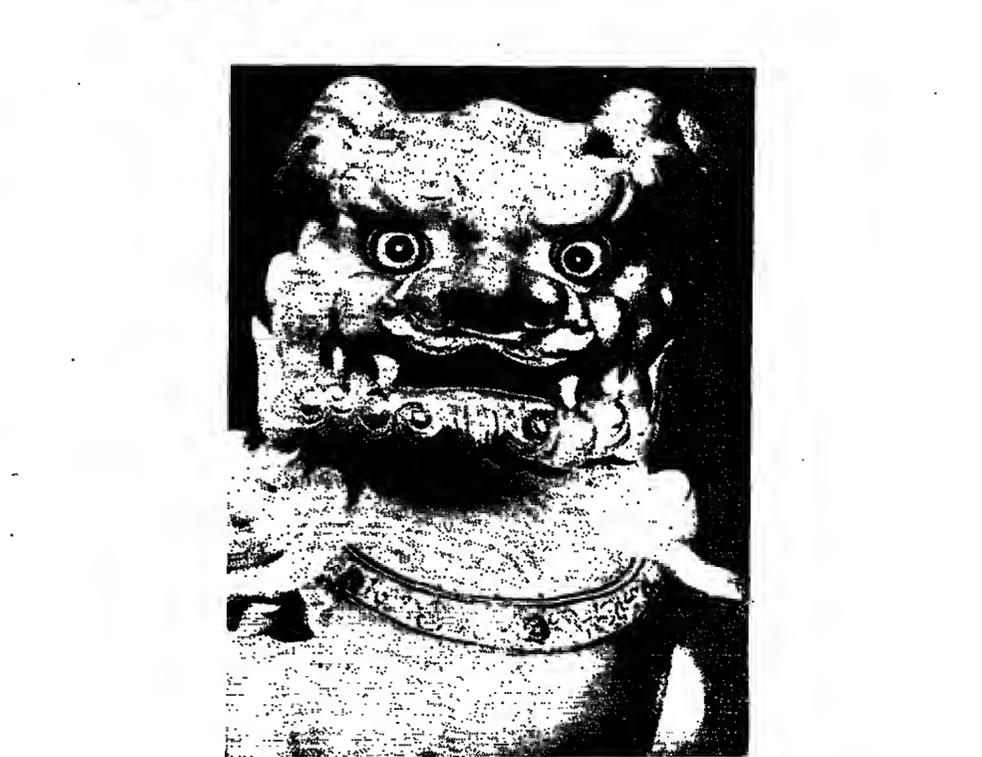
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arab news

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HISHAM ALI HAFIZ
MOHAMMAD ALI HAFIZ
Publishers
MOHAMMAD M. AL-SHIBANI
Editor in Chief
SAUD ALI HAFIZ
General Manager

MAIN OFFICE: ARAB NEWS BUILDING OFFSHARARA, P.O. BOX 4556
TEL: 0534239 6534743 6533723 CABLE: MARADNEWS
TELEX: 401570 ARANEWS SJ JEDDAH

RIYADH OFFICE: AL BATHA STREET, AL RAJHI BUILDING NO. 2, 4th FLOOR,
APT. 210, P.O. BOX 478 TEL: 38272-30480-TELEX: 201600,
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TEL: 353-4413485/5 TELEX: 898272 ARAB NEWS

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MILITARY BALANCE

The Reagan administration's recent decision to sell extra equipment to Saudi Arabia for its 60 American-made F-15 fighter jets once again has aroused an illogical round of commentary throughout the world. For some reason, the United States has been criticized for doing what it should have done long ago — balancing the military strength of one of its closest allies in the Middle East.

The latest word is that the administration is talking on its decision to sell the Kingdom multiple-ejection bomb racks for the F-15s. A small group of congressmen on the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee sent a letter to Reagan expressing concern that the sale would threaten Israel's security.

Pro-Israel spokesmen have viewed any attempts to sell military equipment to the Arab world as "increasing military terror in the Middle-East." Yet those same spokesmen lobby for more military sales and give ways to Israel only to help Israel's terrorist policies in the region.

The threat of "military terror" in the Middle East, as history has shown, has been a one-sided threat from Israel alone. Until recently, the American action has been in direct contradiction of its policies condemning human rights violations and imbalances in military power. On the one hand, post-Vietnam era legislators opposed increasing American defense expenditures in order to achieve a balance of power with the Soviet Union. Yet those same legislators supported policies aimed at maintaining an imbalance of power in the Middle East in favor of Israel.

During this period, which dominated the decade of the 1970s, the United States watched as the Soviet Union forced its way into Afghanistan, Africa, Asia and even parts of Latin America. And the same imbalance of power in the Middle East saw Israel's expansionist policies run wild throughout the occupied West Bank.

These examples prove only one thing: It is the imbalance of power left unchecked that leads to military terrorism. When power is checked on all sides, the threat of such terrorism decreases. If Israel can receive more than \$1.4 billion annually in military aid, then who can have the nerve to suggest that the sale to Saudi Arabia of 60 jet planes will have an adverse effect in the Middle East?

The controversy about the F-15 sale to the Kingdom only emphasizes the imbalance of interests which has been inherent for decades. Is it any wonder that Saudi Arabia recently decided to seek other military supply outlets in view of America's hesitancy?

HOPEFUL SIGNS

While the Islamic goodwill mission is exerting all its efforts to bring about an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Muslim world is holding its breath to see if the Organization of the Islamic Conference can pull it off and give itself enhanced prestige worldwide.

This is the first serious and concerted effort by the OIC to act as a peace-maker, mediator and conciliator thanks to the recent Islamic summit conference which appointed the mission and gave it the authority to find a peaceful end to the fighting, now in its seventh month.

If it succeeds, and it must, it will have earned the admiration of the Muslim states and the respect of the rest of the world and will have emerged as a new force to be taken into account. Its proposed peace-keeping contingent also will mark the beginning of an Islamic vehicle for settling disputes and monitoring adherence to the terms of such settlements.

But all of this may still be wishful thinking as the mission gallantly flies from one capital to the other to find a modus vivendi acceptable to both parties in a delicate and highly volatile situation permeated by deep mutual hatreds and suspicion.

Wednesday was its first day of substantive talks which would have needed the best persuasive powers that the experienced members could muster. Iran feels deeply wounded physically and in every other way but it may find some consolation in the fact that it has not stopped fighting and has given the victorious Iraqis a run for their money. Iraq should have realized by now that although it has advanced deep into the land of the adversary, it will not be able to stay there indefinitely without paying an increasingly heavy price in lives and resources. This, we hope, will make the task of the mission a little bit easier than that of the Secretary General Habib Chatti and President Zia of Pakistan when they undertook to find a peace formula last year while the fighting was at its peak.



Giscard sees tense period between superpowers

By Jim Hoagland

PARIS — President Valery Giscard d'Estaing expects that a long and at times tense testing period between Moscow and Washington will dominate world politics for much of the year, but he thinks the testing will bring an eventual renewal of dialogue and strategic negotiations between the two superpowers.

The French president, who has remained in close contact with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and who is favorably impressed with the first month of Ronald Reagan's presidency, is believed to be considering several initiatives that would facilitate a new and broader East-West dialogue once the testing period is over. He does not expect such an opening for several months. He believes that the Soviets, stung by Reagan's initial verbal attacks, have pulled back and are considering how to shape their own code of conduct toward Reagan rather than thinking about ways to seek a new international code of conduct.

He apparently is hopeful, however, that continued Soviet non-intervention in Poland and some movement on Afghanistan and other problems could create the atmosphere late this year for the convening of an East-West summit conference — that would include not only Reagan and Brezhnev, but also the leaders to the world's other major powers — to discuss global affairs.

For the moment, Giscard facing a surprisingly spirited re-election struggle in which foreign policy will play an important role, is saying nothing publicly about these impressions and his ideas on breaking the impasse that detente has reached. He retreated into diplomatic silence when the subjects were broached for comment during a conversation in his Elysee Palace office recently. He did confirm that after receiving a response from Brezhnev, he is pushing forward with the proposal he made for an international conference on Afghanistan that conceivably could bring the United States and the Soviet Union together at a bargaining table.

Brezhnev's previously undisclosed Feb. 4 letter contained a reaffirmation of traditional Soviet positions on Afghanistan and other subjects, Giscard said, but did not constitute "a formal negative response." Instead, "it cited a number of problems such as a proposal raised," he said.

He said positive responses have come from the Organization of Islamic Conference, his European partners and now from Pakistan, which had reacted with initial irritation when Giscard made the prop-

osal on French television Jan. 27. The Reagan administration has endorsed the plan, which Giscard said on television should bring together the Soviet Union, which has put 85,000 troops into Afghanistan, those countries that are accused by the Soviets of actively supporting the Afghan rebels and the permanent members of the Security Council. The Soviet Union backs direct bilateral talks between the Kabul government of Bahrak Karmal and Afghanistan's neighbors, an idea rejected by Pakistan.

Giscard's proposal on Afghanistan appears to be part of a much broader preoccupation he has with the troubled state of East-West relations and the outlook he has for the coming months. It is an outlook marked by the fact that when he speaks of the period of detente, he uses the past tense. For him, the most reassuring spot on a cloudy horizon appears paradoxically to be the slow pace that the Reagan administration is taking in setting policy initiatives.

Associates say Giscard is impressed that Reagan is "taking his time," in contrast to Jimmy Carter's initial burst of policy proposals. Giscard is known to feel that the welter of proposals led to four years of vacillation and confusion in American foreign policy.

The French president, who regularly receives lengthy letters from Brezhnev, senses that the Soviet leadership was in some ways relieved to see an end to four erratic years under Carter and was ready to define a new relationship with the Republican administration. If that disposition existed, in the French view it has been chilled by the accusations from Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the Soviets are treacherous and support international terrorism. This view holds that it will be several months, while the Kremlin also continues to weigh and balance events in Poland, before that chill lifts.

Such a projection does not appear to worry the French leadership greatly. Giscard has no intention of saying so publicly in an election year, but recent statements do hint at a strong approval of Reagan's apparent commitment to build up American military strength before bargaining with the Soviets on strategic arms and other matters.

Those statements have centered on the need for a new "equilibrium" in superpower relations, which Giscard sees as having tipped in favor of the Kremlin since 1976 as the Soviet Union moved to fill a vacuum that, in Giscard's eyes, was created by Carter's policies and that he now hopes will be filled by

a reassertive America.

But Giscard also continues to caution against the dangers of triggering a major new arms race by an effort for American military superiority, which he feels the Soviet Union will not accept. For him, the threshold that should not be passed appears to be the Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty. Renouncing the treaty would raise expenses and risks of nuclear confrontation to unacceptable levels, he feels.

Giscard appears remarkably relaxed for a leader who suddenly is running neck and neck with Socialist Party candidate Francois Mitterrand in the most recent polls taken on this spring's presidential election.

Earlier, widely held expectations that Giscard would be an easy victor in the two rounds of voting on April 25 and May 10 have been diminished by accusations that Giscard once accepted gifts of diamonds from deposed Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa of the former Central African Empire. He has not yet responded in detail to the accusations, which appear to have personally wounded him, but it is likely that he will do so during the campaign. Giscard's advisers expect foreign policy to be an area they can use to great effect in the campaign. They will argue that it would be dangerous to change leaders at a time when an air of crisis hangs over the superpowers' relations. This strategy could be particularly effective if Giscard can persuade the voters that he has proposals that will help break the impasse.

The French leader appears convinced in any event that the shocks over the last 18 months of Afghanistan, Poland and the failure of the United States to ratify the second Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT II) have brought an end to detente hopes that Soviet-American relations would continue to improve and world tension could be reduced.

The best that can be hoped for now, in his view, is a period of "stabilization," in which Moscow in particular will restrain its activities in the Third World and the two superpowers will accept an amended version of SALT II. Poland is the major threat to such a formula, he acknowledges. But he is somewhat encouraged by his assessment that the Soviet Union continues to balance off the sharp reaction from the West that an invasion would bring against its perceived security problems, and continued to choose non-intervention. Economic help from the European Community and the Soviet Bloc gradually is helping to stabilize the Polish conflict, Giscard feels. (WP)

Saudi Arabian Press Review

Wednesday papers led with the efforts of the Islamic goodwill committee in attempting to bring a ceasefire between Iraq and Iran. They highlighted the committee's return to Tehran with its proposals on the settlement of the crisis, after preliminary approval from Baghdad and Tehran on the ceasefire.

In a front-page story, *Al-Jazirah* highlighted Crown Prince Fahd's approval for the award of a SR 1.4 billion contract for building the Riyadh-Dammam dual-carriage expressway in a period of 24 months. Newspapers gave front-page highlight to Lebanon's call to the U.N. Security Council to meet to consider Israel's repeated assault on South Lebanon. They also played as front-page story the hijacking of the Pakistani plane and the kidnapper's demand to have the airliner re-routed to Tehran. The United States' reported approval to sell 108 M-60 tanks to Morocco figured prominently in *Okaz* newspapers.

Newspaper editorials expressed optimism on the success of the Islamic goodwill committee in bringing about a ceasefire between Iraq and Iran and settling the dispute through peaceful means. They said both Baghdad and Tehran lived up to expectations and showed their desire for ceasefire and solution of the crisis peacefully. Some papers discussed the Gulf states reiterating that the matter of security is the concern of the states of the region themselves. They urged all major powers to keep out of the region since the people of the region are capable of maintaining its security and

stability.

In an editorial on the goodwill committee's mission to Tehran and Baghdad, *Al-Jazirah* noted that the committee has completed an important stage and is now embarking on a still more significant phase in which it would submit its proposals on the basis of its own assessment of the complicated situation. The paper hoped the committee would successfully complete the second stage of its mission, and said that mere acceptance by Iraq and Iran to consider the committee's proposals provides an encouraging indication for finding a formula acceptable to both parties. The paper expressed appreciation that Iraq and Iran did not make any negative comment on the committee's task and the results that are expected to accrue from it.

This tendency, it said, provides a positive factor that would help in creating a suitable climate for the committee to carry out its mission successfully.

On the same subject, *Al-Medina* observed that the announcement by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the committee chairman, on both sides accepting the ceasefire is a happy news, as it highlights the first fruit of the committee's week-long efforts. It said that this auspicious step opens new vistas for finding just and equitable solution to the war between Iraq and Iran. That the two countries have favorably responded to the peace efforts proves the tangible role which the Islamic world can effectively play through the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) in extricating

the two Islamic states from a point of war to a state of peace and good relationship, the paper added. It held out hope that further peace efforts would help in restoring normal relations between the two neighboring Islamic countries, so they can work jointly to foil the machinations of the Communists, Zionists and colonialists.

Al-Yawm said in an editorial that the goodwill committee's success was the outcome of the Islamic community's sense of responsibility and their belief that bloodshed would not help in solving any problems. The war would create neither a victor nor a loser, as both sides would be losers and the only beneficiary would be the anti-Islamic forces which are busy plotting against the two Islamic states. The paper reaffirmed that the committee's success would tell the world that Muslims can become a force through their unity and solidarity.

Commenting on Gulf security, *Okaz* noted that the states of the Gulf are unanimous in their opinion that peace and security of the region could be maintained only when it is kept safe from the tussles of the major powers. The paper made it clear that the states of the region do not need any trusteeship, as they know how to safeguard their entity by themselves. It said that if foreign forces had understood the importance and significance of the creation of the Gulf Cooperation Council, they would not unnecessarily indulge themselves in something that would not benefit them.

Zimbabwe's conditional ties with Russia

By James Macmannus

SALISBURY — Zimbabwe has established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union but only on the basis of remarkable conditions which were agreed by both countries last month. The agreement effectively prohibits Russia from maintaining its traditional links with Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front Party which is a junior member in Salisbury's coalition government.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has resisted diplomatic ties with Moscow since independence due to the Soviet's exclusive support for Nkomo before and during the independence war. The flow of Russian money and arms to Nkomo's party and army throughout the seven-year conflict deeply angered Mugabe's ZANU Party which received no share of the Soviet largesse.

Russia's frequent efforts to force Mugabe to take a secondary position to Nkomo in a nationalistic alliance during the war years deepened the divide between the two sides. In a speech outside Peking on June 22, 1977 Mugabe gave vent to the sentiment of his political and military commanders when he said that the true threat to Zimbabwe's independence stemmed from Russian imperialism rather than white colonialism. That speech, which Mugabe believed to have been made in private but which was widely publicized by the Chinese News Agency, formalized the breach between Moscow and the Mozambique based guerrillas.

Since independence in Salisbury last April the Russians have been working hard through their ambassador in Zambia Vasily Solodovnikov, to mend the fences. Since the ambassador is a senior member of the KGB responsible for channeling aid to Nkomo's party these efforts came to nothing. Late last year the Soviet Union changed tactics and used its close relationship with Mozambique to persuade Salisbury to accept a Russian embassy.

The Russian ambassador to Mozambique, Valentin Vdovin, conducted the negotiations and it was he who signed the agreement with Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister Dr. Witness Mangwende. The agreement said in part that the two governments would not "enter into any agreements, arrangements or negotiations with any organization without prior consultations and explicit approval of each government."

Government sources here say that this covers a private Soviet agreement to cease all supplies of financial and military aid to Nkomo's party and ex guerrilla army. In addition the Soviet embassy will be kept to a small size and will not be allowed to establish cultural or consular offices in Bulawayo, the capital of Matabealand which is the provincial stronghold for Nkomo's supporters.

Despite his reservations about Soviet and East German diplomatic missions in Salisbury Mugabe is said to feel that the cause of nonalignment demand such relations. Mugabe however has not forgotten the abrupt and dismissive manner in which he was treated by senior diplomats of both countries during his years of exile in Mozambique. Initially the relations between Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union are likely to be formal rather than friendly.

Nepal prepares for elections

By John Madley

KATHMANDU — The prime minister of the kingdom of Nepal is believed to have formed an alliance with the leader of a banned pro-Moscow group, Dr. Keshar Jung Raimajhi, to fight the country's first-ever elections to be held on a universal franchise in April this year.

The aim of the alliance is to thwart Nepali politicians who want a multi-party system. But Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa may be playing a dangerous game. Nepal occupies a highly strategic position in the world wedged between India and China and close to the Soviet Union. So far it has maintained a position of strict nonalignment.

The alliance could see Nepal pushed toward Moscow. Raimajhi is keen to cooperate with the king and prime minister to keep Nepal's existing partyless *Panchayat* system but he has declared that he intends to give the system a "push toward socialism."

The Soviet Union recently took advantage of a slight cooling in Nepal-Chinese relations to send a high-powered mission to Nepal, which is believed to have suggested that the Hindu Kingdom consider the Soviet Union as its natural ally. The Chinese would view such a prospect with some alarm.

The dilemma facing King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev is that if he aligns to the existing partyless system he may be playing into Soviet hands — for Soviet influence is then likely to increase. Giving into demands for a multi-party system, however, would be seen as a loss of royal face. A referendum last May decided by 54 per cent to keep the *panchayat* system.

The leading group pressing for a multi-party system is the banned Nepal Congress Party, led by former Prime Minister 67-year-old B.P. Koirala. The left-of-center Congress Party supports both monarchy and foreign investments, and wants to maintain nonalignment.

While the Congress Party appears to have considerable popular support, the 10 different Communist factions here are poorly supported and would probably be heavily defeated in a multi-party election.

Letter to the editor

Sir,
The recent statements by Mrs. Thatcher from America make one wonder whether the 18th century British Empire where the sun never rose (or rather set as they say) is still in command. The Big Powers forget when they meet that they have countries with geographical and political boundaries. When Napoleon forgave this he ended in Waterloo and Hitler ended either losing or ruining all what he was entrusted by his people.

Western countries from America to Spain and Russia to Cuba are in turmoil due to their own social setup and political methods. The appetite of these social and political monsters is so organic and craving that every growth and development have fallen short to satiate it. So the present Western leaders create tension to extract the means to feed their gluttony. Leaders who cannot put in order their own social, political and economic houses for which they are elected or got elected and instead jump across boundaries show that either they are unable to meet their own society's challenge or want to export disorders to make it easy to fish in troubled water.

Yours sincerely,
U.M.M. Nisfar
P.O. Box 2738
Jeddah

Handwritten note in Arabic script: "هذا من الجليل"

Projecting Saudi Arabia to the world

By Al-Khobar Bureau

AL-KHOBAR. — In the minds of many — perhaps most — Americans in the United States, Saudi Arabia appears nothing more than "one large sand dune with some sort of city in the middle of it from where commerce goes on. And that's it." It was just such misinformation, stereotyping and lack of knowledge which motivated American television producer Jo Franklin-Trout to spend months together to make a three-part documentary which she hopes will shatter the "almost total lack of knowledge about Saudi Arabia in America."

While the filming of the series has been completed during a two-month marathon tending to all corners of the Kingdom from Jajran to Hail to Jubail to the Rub Al Khali, research and planning has proceeded for more than a year. This preparation enabled Mrs. Franklin-Trout to approach many Saudi Arabian officials for interviews with a degree of expertise not shared by many of her colleagues in the U.S.

"It was just apparent for a long time that there was very little knowledge and a lot of misinformation about Saudi Arabia, while at the same time the country is one of our most important allies." "Americans have no idea that the rest of the country looks like or that varied and that it is complex and that it is made up of a lot of different people," said Franklin-Trout.

She added, "Most importantly they have no sense of the culture and consequently the respective and priorities and the values of the Saudi Arabians today and I think that that has led to some enormous misunderstandings which are serious." She noted that her contacts of the Kingdom and its people were relatively accurate as a result of contact through her job as producer for the past six years in charge of coverage of the White House, Congress, the Middle East, and defense for Public Broadcasting TV.

Franklin-Trout, who will leave shortly for Washington D.C. where she will edit the documentary, said she was most impressed during her travels here "at the incredible amount of work that has been done in a short span of time — It just frankly is impressive beyond words." Of the Kingdom's rapid development, she said, "It's never been done anywhere in such a speed. It certainly wasn't done in the United States."

She said she was looking for signs of possible strains on the Kingdom as a result of fast industrial development and social changes, but she noted that the Saudi Arabians appear to be easily absorbing the changes. "It really just floors you when you think through clearly from where they came from to where they are today," she said. "I was surprised at how little disturbed the people seem to be, actually I would have to say they seem to be absorbing it astoundingly well. I wonder if we (Americans) would have done as well," she said.

The television producer, who has covered Iran and its revolution, said she saw little correlation between the development and subsequent revolution in Iran and the development in the Kingdom. "In Iran the only hope was how fast we can eradicate the past and install Westernization, and in Saudi Arabia I don't think they are looking for Westernization and they certainly are not looking to eradicate the past. They seem to like certain elements of modernization and industrialization but there is a very strong feeling and efforts that go along with it to maintain their identity, their past and their culture."

"They do not want to be like Westerners and I think that's quite excellent — it amounts to stability," Franklin-Trout said. The producer said she was also impressed by "the fascinating way in which the Royal family and the government keep in touch at a very level with the populace everyday. It is unlike anything I've seen anywhere else."

either in the West or in other Middle East countries."

"Today it's quite refreshing," she said commenting about grass roots access to the government, adding, "we could use a little more of that in the United States." During the filming in the Kingdom, Franklin-Trout and her film crew spent some time with bedouin, farmer, and merchant families and talked with men and women at all levels of Saudi society.

The producer said she was also impressed by the progress of women in the Kingdom. And she observed, "I think there is an element that is greatly misunderstood in America. I don't think Saudi women want to be like Western women and I think Western women have a tendency to believe that surely they would like to be exactly like us and their problem is simply to catch up."

"I don't think that's true. I think Saudi women see a lot that they do not like the Western women's life, that they would not like to imitate and in fact feel very strongly about the lack of family structure in the United States." She said she discovered that many of the Saudi men and women she met were "appalled at the sort of disintegrated family structure in the United States and they feel it leads to some very unhappy people and very shaky values. I think it's a very interesting message that they have to deliver back to the U.S. on that account."

The three-part documentary dealing in aspects of history and culture, life in the Kingdom today, and Saudi Arabia in international economics and politics, is expected to air this fall on public television. The documentary, made and shown as a result of financial assistance from the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, Texas Instruments, Ford Motor Company and the Harris Corporation, will be made available to international television networks and to colleges and universities after its debut in the U.S.



SPACE SHUTTLE: The space shuttle, Columbia, which will be launched March 14, stands at Kennedy Space Center. With this, the United States will embark on a new era of space travel, one in which reusable vehicles will make repeated journeys into orbit, carrying enormous payloads and non-astronaut passengers.

Arab News Diary

JEDDAH

By Raana Siddiqi

MRS. PENSACK HOWITZ, wife of the Danish ambassador, gave a luncheon in honor of Mrs. Najla Farsi, wife of the mayor of Jeddah, last Wednesday at her residence. Many Saudi ladies and wives of several ambassadors had attended. She also held a display of Danish silver, porcelain and ashtrays along with an exhibit of Florentine art work for the guests. A beautifully laid out lunch of Danish culinary delights was prepared by the Danish community wives.

MAYOR MUHAMMAD SAID FARSI held a lunch party at the *Thousand and One* club to bid farewell to George Duncan, a British Ambassador Sir James Craig and a number of leading architects and engineers with whom George had worked during his ten years' stay in Jeddah. The mayor praised George for the work he had done under Jeddah reservation and beautification schemes. He also presented George with a gold sash, a silver sword and a copy of an old and new with a special inscription. Robert Matthew Johnson Marshall and partners will now be represented by Hassan Dajani in Jeddah while a new project office in Riyadh will be managed by Farwan.

PLAJ ARRANGED a morning coffee in honor of Mrs. Zia Ul Haq, wife of the Pakistani president Tuesday at the *Nova Park*. It was an occasion for the Pakistani community wives to meet and discuss with guest of honor various subjects concerning the community here. Mrs. Zia has come to perform "Umrah" and to visit Medina.

GENEVIEVE AND Henry Zipper welcomed the spring season by holding a dinner party friends last Thursday. Flowers were arranged beautifully on the open terrace which was covered with Oriental rugs for to go on. Guests wore flowery dresses and decorated themselves with flowers. It was an

elegant setting for talented *Ari Jay* to perform Korean folklore which was appreciated by all.

THE AMBASSADOR OF MOROCCO and Mrs. M.A. Al Amri gave a reception Tuesday at their residence to celebrate their country's National Day. The function was attended by Saudi Arabian dignitaries, members of the diplomatic corps and others.

PROF. CHARLES ANDERSON, A well-known literary figure and formerly of John Hopkins University, Maryland, is on a visit to the Kingdom. Prof. Anderson, who is accompanied by his wife, has left for Riyadh after a week's stay in Jeddah, and will also visit Dhahran. He will give lectures, and hold discussions on American literature and authors.

MRS. McNEIL, former director of Girl Scouts of America, is another prominent visitor to the Kingdom. A friend of the Andersons, she joined them in the Far East to come to Saudi Arabia.

AN EXHIBITION of Oriental carpets will be held at the *Sheraton Hotel* from March 5 to 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Today is the last day to see the Middle East electricity exhibition at *Al Harithiy Exhibition Center*. It is open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.

THE MONTHLY COFFEE afternoon for Australian wives will be held Saturday at the residence of *Marilyn Jamieson*, wife of the Australian trade commissioner.

EASTERN PROVINCE

THE ARAB HERITAGE GALLERY is holding an exhibition from puppets from all-over the world March 5-15. The puppets are from the private collections of the gallery's owner *Nabila Bassam* and other collectors in the area. Open daily 9-1, Tuesday, and Thursdays 3:30-6:30, and Fridays 10-12. The gallery is off 28th Street beside the mosque.

GORDON RICE from the *Internal Revenue Service* will be at the consulate to

help Americans file their 1980 tax forms. He will see people on a first-come-first-served basis daily from March 7-25. The timing is 8:30-12 and 1-4:30. Next Thursday, March 12, he will hold a tax seminar at Dhahran Academy.

THE DHAHRAN OUTING GROUP sponsors a presentation on Zimbabwe with slides and music at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 9, in the Dhahran Auditorium, Aramco.

DHAHRAN ACADEMY has its first science fair this week with 400 exhibits on display in the school gymnasium. The young Curies, Edisons and Galileos are not reinventing the wheel but investigating such phenomena as volcanoes, solar energy, the planets and botany. Exhibits may be seen after the awards presentation ceremony March 8 at 7 p.m. in the Big Dome, all-day Tuesday, March 10, and until noon Wednesday. Judges recruited from UPM, KFU, and schools nearby will award points for creativity, and the organization of the investigation.

AN EXHIBITION of carpets from Pakistan will be held at building J Apartment 11 in Northrup's compound, Friday March 5, from 12-6 p.m. For information call 857-5047 extension 208.

IN THE SAUDI GARDENING ALMANAC this is the month for pruning and transplanting. *Kathy and Bill Kingman*, winners of the garden of the month award for February at Aramco, are busy pruning the bougainvilleas, hibiscus and lantana in their Golden Atrium courtyard house in Dhahran. Mrs. Kingman, who had never gardened before coming to this country 14 years ago, wanted to get rid of some grass, so she put in a rock garden, and one thing led to another. Now she has low-maintenance garden, puts in lots of work every 3 to 4 months but relatively little on a daily basis. "It is setting up a garden that is hard, deciding on the placement of the shrubs and plants to get the right shape and height," she told *Arab News*. She added that garden was like interior decorating, and she moves plants with the same ease that other householders move furniture.

U.S. all set to enter into a new era

By Walter Bagley

HOUSTON, (R) — The United States is about to embark on a new era of space travel, one in which reusable vehicles will make repeated round journeys into orbit, carrying enormous payloads and non-astronaut passengers. Officially called the Space Transportation System, but better known as the *Space Shuttle*, the new system will be the backbone of the United States' — and many other countries' — space efforts for the rest of this century.

The key to the program is reusability. Because most major components can be used over and over again, the Shuttle System offers an enormous economic advantage over the previous methods that used extremely expensive equipment which could be used only once. The new system is designed to eventually pay for itself, with government and private business paying set fees to send personnel and equipment into space and return them to earth.

The key element in the system is the airplane-like orbiter, which takes off and flies into space like a rocket, and returns to earth, landing like an airplane. The 121-foot long craft can carry up to 65,000 pounds of cargo, and in addition to its pilot and co-pilot as many as five scientists and technicians to conduct experiments in space or check and repair satellites in orbit.

The first four shuttle missions, all test flights, will land on a dry lakebed in the California desert outside Los Angeles, where a prototype shuttle has made practice landings. The shuttle will then become operational and land at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida, which is the prime launch site. Both landing strips are equipped to bring the shuttle down in a virtually automated landing, with the pilots merely monitoring the on-board indicators.

The sophisticated guidance equipment is necessary because the shuttle will be without a means of propulsion in the earth's atmosphere and will be able to make only one approach.

Because it can carry large payloads and be used repeatedly, the shuttle will make it financially feasible for many more countries and companies to place satellites of their own into space.

Depending on their size, four to six instrument packages could be launched at once with all users sharing the costs. The shuttle's lift and cargo capability will enable it to carry extremely large payloads into orbit such as the enormous space telescope already under construction. The European Space Agency is building a complete scientific laboratory, called *Spacelab*, to take advantage of the shuttle's roundtrip capability.

Built to operate in weightlessness, *Spacelab* will allow scientists to spend up to a week in orbit conducting a wide variety of experiments. The shuttle can act as the initial "stage" to launch a rocket equipped spacecraft into orbit, eliminating the high costs of single-launch, multi-stage rockets.

The shuttle's ability to retrieve orbiting satellites and return them to earth for repair or refurbishing has, according to some published reports, so concerned the Soviet Union that it was an issue at recent strategic arms talks.

The challenges of designing and building the shuttle system were enormous and the shuttle's first flight, now scheduled for early April, has been delayed about two years. The developers were confronted by two major problems: protecting the shuttle from the scorching heat of re-entry into the earth's atmosphere and providing it with enough power to lift large payloads into orbit. Both problems were complicated by the need to make the craft both durable and light weight.

After studying hundreds of proposals, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) decided to cover the shuttle with heat-resistant silica fibres which can withstand temperatures of 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit (1,260 centigrade).

More than 30,000 silica tile gear applied by hand to the first shuttle. While it was a time-consuming and expensive task, NASA officials are sure they decided on the best method.

Temperature was not a big problem for the shuttle's three main engines.

The big challenge was to make an extremely powerful yet light weight reusable engine. Lacking a practical way to test new engine's components in the laboratory, the designers had to build entire models, at a cost of \$25 million each, to test their theories.

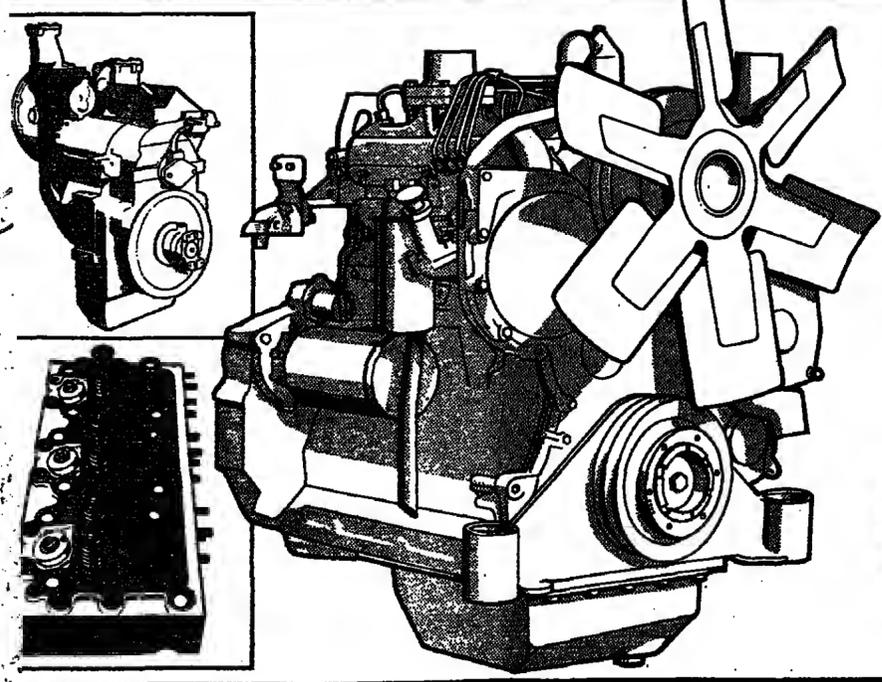
A slight miscalculation in theory usually results in the destruction of the test engine and construction of another.

The final design is three times more powerful and significantly lighter than the engines used by the Saturn V rocket to send men to the moon.

The slow progress in the development of the shuttle's engines and heat protection system caused concern among U.S. politicians, who were worried about the costs.

NASA officials have taken the delays in stride. "We are dealing with an extremely complicated, sophisticated machine," said mission director Christopher Kraft. "Actually, we are surprised at the few problems we had." One important reason for their caution is that the shuttle is the first manned spacecraft that will not be test-flown first without men on board. For that reason it is equipped with four spare computer systems, each capable of automatically performing all operations necessary for an entire mission.

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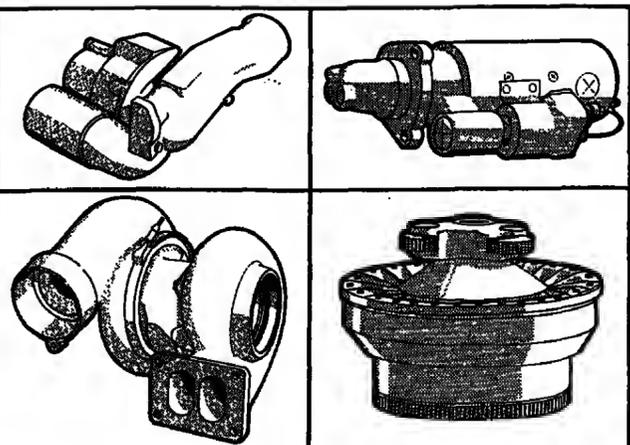
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On IEA lines

EEC plans oil reserve pool

BRUSSELS, March 4 (R) — EEC energy ministers have agreed to set up a working party on establishing a pooled oil reserve to be drawn on by Common Market countries in times of shortage, diplomatic sources said.

A team of experts from the EEC commission and member states was given a May target date to report back on the scheme, which the EEC commission has suggested might take the form of an "oil bank." The sources said France strongly backed the idea, but that Britain and West Germany felt it required further investigation.

The planned reserve would allow EEC countries with supply problems to avoid buying on the spot, non-contract oil market where in the past price spurts have been cited by OPEC countries to justify pushing up official crude prices, the sources said.

The Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), to which all EEC states

except France belong, already has a scheme for emergency oil-sharing in times of crisis. The IEA defines its crisis trigger point as a fall of seven per cent or more in normal oil supplies.

A commission spokesman said the EEC intention was to supplement this. "There is a need for measures at a time of shortage which might fall short of the IEA definition of crisis," he said.

A commission report has suggested a possible reserve of 15 million tons of oil, equivalent to 10 days' consumption.

Its proposals do not require the physical transportation of any oil, but call on member states to make national oil companies subscribe what the commission calls drawing rights on a quantity of oil guaranteed by governments.

In return, any EEC country would be able to withdraw up to 50 per cent of the proposed

reserve if the EEC commission found that its stocks had fallen below the 90-day national reserve that community states are required to maintain.

Diplomatic sources said French Minister Andre Giraud had been most insistent that detailed proposals on means of oil sharing among member state be ready for the next energy council scheduled for June.

The French minister was also the most ardent supporter of a commission report deploring delays in the community's nuclear energy program and urging member states to increase use of nuclear energy quickly.

Oil accounts for just over 50 per cent of EEC energy consumption and the commission wants to reduce this to 40 per cent by 1990 through energy-saving, nuclear power, and use of other energy sources.

The ministers agreed to continue a policy of drawing on oil stocks rather than buying on the spot market. But they noted that, due to reduced consumption, the resumption of exports from Iran and Iraq, and increased use of stocks since November, the current oil market situation was favorable.

EEC oil consumption in the fourth quarter of 1980 was 13 per cent down on the corresponding period of 1979.

Earlier Monday, diplomatic sources said the European Common Market commission is to ask EEC governments to counter the anti-nuclear lobby by publicizing the dangers of delaying nuclear programs and of heavy dependence on imported oil.

When energy and industry ministers meet here it will also seek accord on the outlines of a far-reaching program for restructuring the troubled EEC steel industry, involving sharp cuts in capacity.

Oil now accounts for just over 50 per cent of the EEC energy consumption, and the commission is striving to reduce this to 40 per cent by 1990 through energy-saving and use of alternative energy.

More U.S. banks lower prime rate

NEW YORK, March 4 (R) — Major U.S. banks cut their prime lending rates to 18.5 per cent from 19 per cent due to what analysts called a sharp drop in demand for business loans.

Chemical Bank said Monday it would cut its prime rate, which banks charge their best corporate customers, by half a percentage point to 18.5 per cent. It was joined by Citibank, Morgan Guaranty Bank First National Bank, of Chicago and several smaller banks which are important lenders to businesses and analysts expected other major banks to follow suit.

Since the beginning of the year, there have been five reductions in prime from the record-high 21.5 per cent rate reached on Dec. 19, 1980.

"The dominant influence on prime rates is competitive pressure," said David Jones, economist with the investment house Aubrey G. Lanston and Company.

Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust, of Chicago, was the first big bank to move to 18.5, cutting one percentage point off its prime on Feb. 20.

Analysts said the tight rein on money supply held by the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. Central Bank, was preventing prime rates falling faster.

Japan unemployment rises to 2.2 per cent

TOKYO, March 4 (R) — Unemployment in Japan in January was the highest for almost a year and the situation could deteriorate further because of the domestic economic slowdown, officials have said.

Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki's office said 1.3 million people, 2.2 per cent of the work force, were unemployed in January.

The unemployment rate, which is still relatively low compared with other major industrial democracies, follows a high number of bankruptcies under the government's tight money policy designed to curb inflation.

The Bank of Japan said in a report Tuesday that the domestic economic slowdown was continuing, although there was no chance of a serious recession, exports of companies surveyed in fiscal year 1981 would rise at a slower rate than last year due to trade friction with some importing countries, it added.

U.S. resumes wheat sales to Iran

NEW YORK, March 4 (AP) — The U.S. government has reported that it inspected 25,000 tons of wheat last week for shipment to Iran, signaling resumed U.S. wheat sales to that nation, the ABC television network reported.

ABC said Tuesday the wheat was inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at unnamed Pacific ports.

Trade restrictions imposed by the Jimmy Carter administration after Americans were taken hostage in Tehran did not include an embargo on food shipments.

However, no food stuffs went to the Gulf country because dockworkers refused to load cargo for shipment there while the hostages remained captive.

Thomas W. Gleason, president of the International Longshoremen's Association here, said he knew nothing about resumed wheat shipments. "This is the first I hear of it," he said.

Financial futures market for London gets clearance

LONDON, March 4 (R) — A financial futures market in currencies and interest rate on government securities has received a go-ahead from the Bank of England and could be operating here by the end of the year, the chairman of a planning group has said.

Financial futures are one of the fastest growing areas in international finance, and London has lagged behind Chicago, which was a highly successful market with a turnover of \$10 billion a day.

Investors in financial futures can protect themselves against currency and interest-rate fluctuations by buying a fixed currency or interest rate at a specified time in the future. Much of the activity involves hedging to avoid loss.

John Markshire, chairman of a London Financial Futures group, said that the Bank of England had written in a letter to him that it will not obstruct a market if further work shows it can be achieved.

The group had been anxiously awaiting approval from the bank because of the monetary authority's that a market, including interest rates on securities could undermine their ability to dictate terms on which the treasury bills its debt.

The group last year produced a paper which outlined four currency contracts in sterling, the West German mark, Japanese yen and Swiss franc and three interest-rate contracts, including 20-year British government bonds.

Oil futures will start trading here next month and a gold futures contract on the London metal exchange is likely soon, so London could have three new futures markets by the end of 1981.

Chicago's success over the past decade has contrasted with the recent disappointing debut of the New York futures exchange Nyfe, which showed that the big investor or speculator who trades in futures is choosy about which market he uses.

London money brokers have not been deterred by the slow start of New York's futures exchange, nicknamed "the knife." They say it modelled itself too closely on Chicago and so far has been hampered by lack of volume in its trading.

Chicago is primarily interested in "the dentist from Denver," the U.S. commodity exchange label for a wealthy individual, but London brokers say they want to attract institutions such as pension funds.

Brokers say that the Bank of England once it has given permission to trade, will supervise the financial futures market as does other London markets.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 P.M. Wednesday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	—	8.75	8.82
Belgian Franc (1,000)	95.00	112.00	—
Canadian Dollar	2.78	—	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	155.00	159.00	158.40
Dutch Guilder (100)	140.00	145.00	143.55
Egyptian Pound	—	4.13	4.35
Emirates Dirham (100)	—	91.00	91.40
French Franc (100)	66.00	68.00	67.30
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	66.50	65.90
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	41.00
Iranian Ryal (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar	—	8.55	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	32.00	39.50	33.10
Japanese Yen (1,000)	16.00	—	16.35
Jordanian Dinar	—	10.48	10.41
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.23	12.23
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	84.50	84.20
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	73.00	72.70
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	34.00
Philippine Peso (100)	—	—	44.00
Pound Sterling	7.33	7.48	7.45
Qatari Riyal (100)	—	92.00	92.20
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	—	159.75
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	—	—	39.50
Swiss Franc (100)	168.00	175.00	174.00
Syrian Lira (100)	—	57.00	56.20
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	—	—
U.S. Dollar	3.35	3.36	3.35
Yemeni Riyal (100)	—	73.25	73.45
Gold kg.	—	51,700.00	—
10 Tolas bar	—	5,150.00	—
Ounce	—	1,715.00	—

Cash and Transfer rates are supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce, Gabel St. & Sharafia, Jeddah — Tel: 6429932, 6538483.

French move to counter Japan's trade offensive

PARIS, March 4 (AFP) — Eleven French ministers and secretaries of state are to meet Wednesday in an unprecedented session to discuss how to deal with Japanese export penetration in France's traditional markets.

It is believed to be the first time that such an inter-ministerial meeting is to be held on trade relations with a single country.

The session, called by Prime Minister Raymond Barre, will include topics ranging from international monetary questions and foreign affairs, to scientific research.

Francois Missoffe, the special envoy on French-Japanese trade relations, prepared the file on the question and consulted with professional and trade union organizations.

He is to travel this month to Brussels, the seat of the European Economic Community (EEC) commission, to convey the French position. French leaders describe the problem as the increase of Japanese exports in sensitive sectors, both abroad and in France, while the export of French products into Japan remains difficult.

Missoffe is to travel to Japan this April to resume talks with Tokyo authorities.

Missoffe said the summit of the seven main industrialized countries in Ottawa this summer will be an opportunity to examine the issue of Japanese exports with the major

interested parties — Japan, the United States, and western Europe.

Citing Japanese willingness to regulate imports to the United States, observers said there was concern in Europe that Japan would turn its energies toward the Common Market.

Sudan hikes fuel prices

KHARTOUM, March 4 (R) — The Sudanese government, faced with a big balance of payments deficit, has raised fuel prices by up to 25 per cent.

The move followed big increases last week in duty on imported cars, cigarettes and alcoholic drinks. Western diplomats said revenue-raising measures had been urged by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF has forecast Sudan will run up \$1 billion trade deficit this year with petrol imports costing at least \$400 million.

In Ottawa, Canada's federal government announced a 75 cents a barrel rise in petroleum prices to pay for extra oil imports needed because of a production cutback by the province of Alberta.

Federal Energy Minister Marc Lalonde told Reporters Tuesday he regretted the decision to impose the levy on oil consumers, but said it was the direct result of Alberta's decision.

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Dammam Municipality	Construction of Sunshades & Services at the Half Moon Bay	11	200	5.4.81
Khobar Municipality & Dependencies	Operation and Maintenance of Khobar Lighting Network for 1401/1402	—	200	16.3.81
Secretariat of the Holy Capital of Mecca	Operation of Mazzalefa & Anafz Towers for 1401/1402	26	300	23.3.81
Sewage and Water authority at the Eastern Province	Supply of Safety instruments and accessories against harmful gases and the safety belts	21	400	24.3.81

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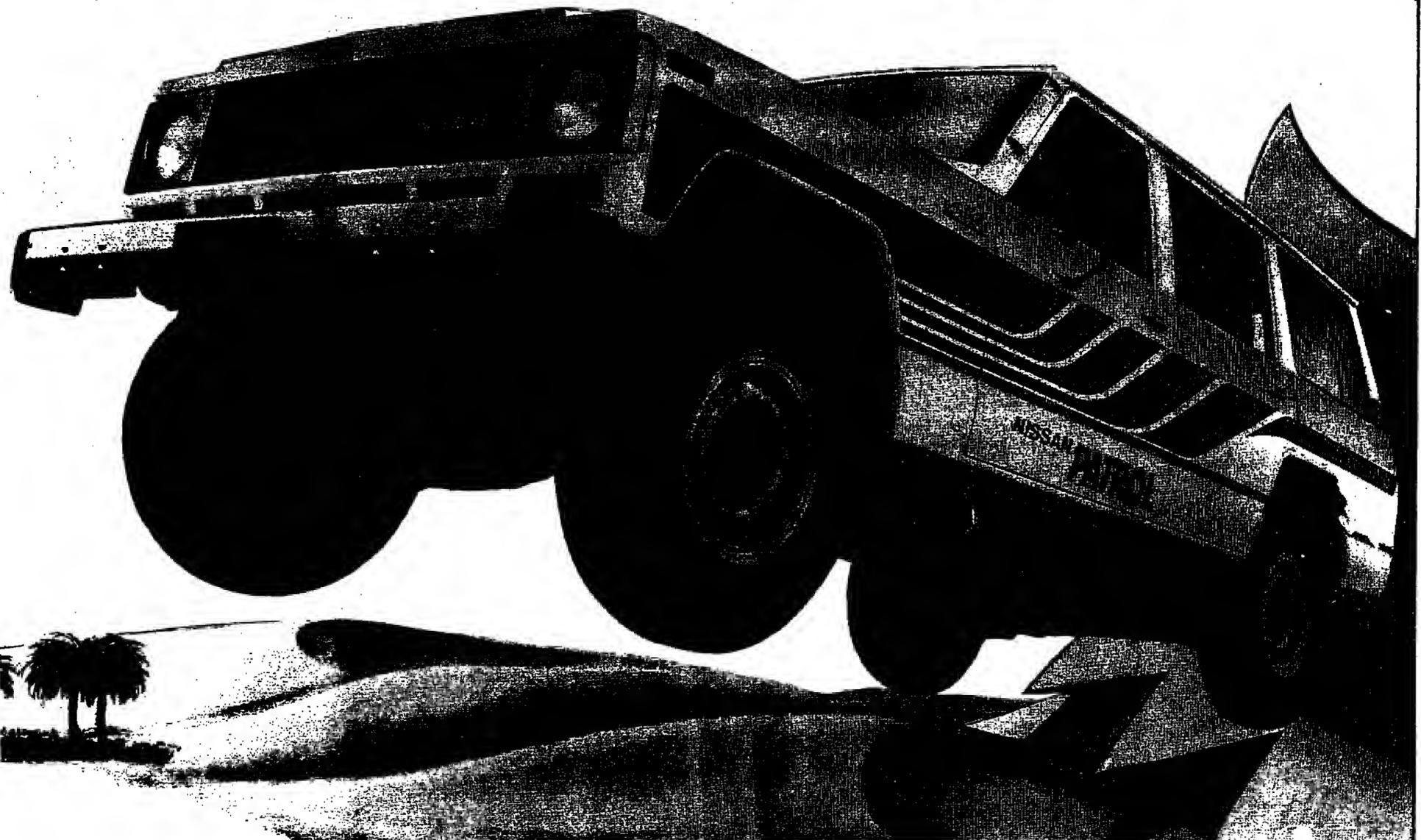
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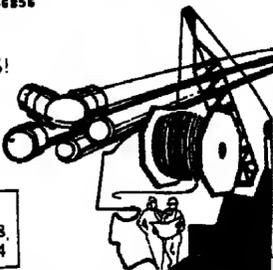
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Defends aid plan

Troops to Salvador ruled out by Reagan

WASHINGTON, March 4 (R) — President Ronald Reagan, responding to concern that U.S. military involvement in El Salvador could turn into another Vietnam, said he does not foresee sending combat troops there. Reagan acknowledged that parallels were being drawn between early U.S. involvement in Vietnam and his decision to send military advisers and aid to a Salvadorean ruling junta fighting leftist rebels.

"But the difference is so profound," he said in a television interview Tuesday night. "What we are actually doing is at the request of a government in one of our neighboring countries, offering some help against the import or the export into the Western hemisphere of terrorism, of disruption," Reagan said.

Speaking a day after the administration announced it would send another 20 military advisers to El Salvador and an extra \$25 million in aid, he said: "I don't see any likelihood of us going in with fighting forces." The assistance plan provoked opposition from congressmen and others who recalled that U.S. involvement in Vietnam began with the sending of military advisers.

Asked about administration statements that the United States would direct its actions

against Cuba, which U.S. officials claim is a major conduit of arms to the Salvadorean leftist guerrillas, Reagan said: "There are a lot of things open — diplomacy, trade — a number of things."

He said Secretary of State Alexander Haig, in focussing attention on Cuba as a supplier of weapons, was not "in any way, suggesting an assault against Cuba." Although the decision to increase the U.S. military presence in El Salvador aroused protests in Congress Tuesday, opponents did not appear strong enough to reverse it.

El Salvador government officials Tuesday welcomed increased U.S. military aid. A government spokesman said in San Salvador the increased aid appeared to be a response to a recent public appeal by President Jose Napoleon Duarte for "continuing U.S. military assistance to counter Soviet bloc arm supplies to the guerrillas."

In Mexico City, President Jose Lopez Portillo, opening a Soviet industrial exhibition Tuesday, repeated his calls for non-intervention in the internal affairs of El Salvador.

Duarte in a radio speech Monday reaffirmed his readiness to travel anywhere for negotiations with Salvadorean opposition



PARDONED GUERRILLAS: A group of alleged leftist guerrillas who turned themselves in to the Salvadorean authorities under the provisions of an amnesty decreed by the ruling junta last week. The government has urged others who have not yet turned themselves in to do so before the March 11 deadline.

leaders to bring peace to El Salvador. Guillermo Manuel Ungo, head of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, the political arm of the guerrillas, last week rejected negotiations with Duarte. In battlefield developments a military

spokesman Tuesday said at least 30 guerrillas were killed in weekend operations near Conchagua volcano, 195 kms southeast of San Salvador. No government casualties were reported.

Meanwhile, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann told West Germany Tuesday that his country would not allow arms to be delivered through its territory to leftist guerrillas in El Salvador, the foreign ministry said in Bonn.

Ecuador says Peru fails to disengage

QUITO, March 4 (AFP) — The Ecuadorian government has accused Peru of failing to comply with an agreement for separation of Ecuadorian and Peruvian troops in the Amazon border area that was the scene of conflict at the end of January and in early February.

The Ecuadorian national news secretary, Augusto Alvarado, told reporters Tuesday night that Ecuador and Peru had agreed to disperse and demobilize their troops in the area of conflict, in accordance with a resolution of foreign ministers of the Organization of American States (OAS).

"Ecuador has complied and is complying with this duty, but unfortunately Peru has not proceeded in the same direction, though having a similar obligation," the government spokesman commented. Alvarado also said that talks between military leaders of the two countries being held on the towns of Huaquillas and Aguas Verdes are encountering difficulties — which Ecuador hopes to see overcome. They stem from Peru's failure to disengage its forces, he said.

He noted that the nations that originally guaranteed the Ecuadorian-Peruvian border — Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States — had given the go-ahead for the start of such a troop disengagement Feb. 26. The Peruvian failure to carry out this obligation is the cause of the difficulties that have arisen in the talks of the two sides' military officers, he declared.

Radiation revenge lands French worker in court

CHERBOURG, Western France, March 4 (AFP) — A nuclear power station worker went on trial here charged with "administration of substances damaging to the health" — radioactive material — in the first case of its kind in France.

The accused, who works at the nuclear reprocessing center at La Hague near here, has admitted putting three radioactive nuclear discs under the driver's seat of his foreman's car, to gain revenge. "I did not want to kill him," he said, "but simply that he should receive a good dose so that he would be moved to another department."

The discs emitted an hourly dose of 10 rads — twice that permissible. The foreman however had sent his car to the breakers, and it was only six months later, when he went to recover the seats, that the discs were discovered.

The judges had difficulty finding an appropriate charge in the French penal code on which to try the man. If convicted, he could receive between one month and five years' imprisonment. The verdict will be delivered next March 31.



SELF-CHAINED: East German refugee Falko Vogt chains himself to the gates of the Soviet embassy in Madrid Monday to protest violation of human rights in East Germany. Spanish police took him to headquarters for questioning.

Russia makes offer to West on confidence zone extension

MADRID, March 4 (Agencies) — Soviet delegate Leonid Ilyichev has told the European security conference his government is prepared to extend East-West "confidence-building measures" (CBMs) to the Ural Mountains if the western powers agree to make similar concessions.

CBMs, designed to reduce the risk of surprise attacks, include advance notification of big maneuvers and the invitation of foreign observers to such exercises. Extension of existing CBMs, which were agreed at the first European security conference in Helsinki in 1975, is a central issue at the Madrid review meeting.

Ilyichev addressed Tuesday the 35-nation conference for the first time after returning from the Soviet Communist Party congress in Moscow, where President Leonid I. Brezhnev proposed a summit meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Ilyichev quoted extensively from passages of Brezhnev's Feb. 23 speech, but referred neither to the proposed summit meeting nor to the stalled SALT-2 strategic arms limitation treaty.

The Soviet delegate said his government "is prepared to reach agreement ... on notification of movements of troops and naval or air force units in the entire European area of the USSR."

He described this proposal as "a construc-

To counter Soviets America adopts new naval strategy

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Agencies) U.S. Navy Secretary John Lehman has said the administration of President Ronald Reagan has adopted a major change in United States naval strategy aimed at countering Soviet threats in all key oceans and jettisoning the Carter administration's policy focusing on defending the sea lanes to western Europe.

Lehman told newsmen Tuesday, the U.S. fleet must be increased in size from the present 456 ships and submarines to about 600, and the number of aircraft carriers from 12 to 15. The navy secretary said the new strategy represents "an accurate consensus throughout the administration" and follows discussions he has had with Reagan and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Lehman said the administration of former President Jimmy Carter followed a strategy of "pullback" from low-threat areas. He said the Carter approach was based on several assumptions, including a belief that "taking on the high-threat challenge of the Soviets was too expensive and not necessary."

He described the new naval strategy as aimed at "going back into the highest-threat areas of our vital interests" and being able to defeat the Soviet navy's threat to those interests.

What this means, Lehman said is that the U.S. Navy will go more frequently into the waters of the Greenland-Iceland-United Kingdom gap in the Atlantic, that the United States would guarantee the ability to defend the Western alliance, the Mediterranean and the far north, to keep the Russians out of the northern part of Germany and to be able to attack Russia's Kola Peninsula in the Arctic.

He added that a navy big enough to handle a high Soviet threat in distant waters could take care of any problems in Western hemisphere waters.

Lehman was sharply critical of the Carter administration's reaction to the perceived threat to U.S. interests in the Gulf area after the fall of the Shah of Iran and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Lehman said the Carter administration did not change its policy of holding down the size of the fleet and the number of aircraft carriers, but that it attempted to cover the Indian Ocean-Arabian Sea-Gulf area by "pulling the sheet from one side of the bed to the other."

Lehman also said the United States should

stop complying with terms of the two Soviet union treaties reached with the Soviet Union. Lehman said he believed Carter acted illegally in informally extending the original 1972 SALT I treaty.

He said the U.S. should no longer abide by the pact or by the 1979 SALT II accord which, although never ratified by the United States, limits the number of B-52 bombers with air-launched cruise missiles and the range of sea-launched cruise missiles.

Lehman said the Reagan administration's first defense budget, to be announced Wednesday, would reflect a major shift in naval strategy to one of directly confronting Soviet threats. He said SALT I "codified a Soviet advantage of 3 to 2" in strategic weapons with the understanding there would be a new treaty when it expired in October, 1977.

Reagan has described SALT II as fatally flawed and has suggested new negotiations. Lehman said he would recommend to the National Security Council that it drop informal U.S. adherence to both treaties and that it make clear the Pentagon no longer would be bound by their numerical limits.

tive act on the part of the Soviet Union ... and we are now waiting for a Western move for a corresponding enlargement of the zone where confidence-building measures will be applicable." He stressed that the United States and Canada were conference participants, but did not elaborate further. Neither in his speech now at a subsequent news conference did Ilyichev explain what kind of "enlargement" he had in mind.

Western diplomats said it would be unacceptable if the Russians were seeking a westward extension of CBMs to include the Atlantic Ocean or north American territory.

France, with the backing of the United States and the other NATO has proposed that the Madrid meeting agree on a mandate for a new European disarmament conference which would first concentrate on extending CBMs. France and its allies have insisted that a precondition for such a conference is agreement in Madrid that new CBMs should apply from the Atlantic to the Urals, that they should have military significance and be binding and verifiable.

Current CBMs apply from the Atlantic to 250 kms inside Soviet territory. Brezhnev last Monday told the Soviet Communist Party congress: "We are prepared to apply them to the entire European part of the USSR, provided the Western states too extend the confidence zone accordingly."



INDIAN WELCOME: West German President Karl Carstens is received by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on his arrival in New Delhi Wednesday on a six-day visit to India. Among others present at the airport to welcome Carstens were the Indian President Sanjiva Reddy and his wife (center).

Carstens, Indira to discuss war, oil

NEW DELHI, March 4 (AFP) — West German President Karl Carstens arrived here Wednesday at the start of a six-day state visit to India.

His 30-member delegation includes Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher. Genscher will only spend two days in New Delhi before returning to Bonn Friday.

Diplomatic circles in Bonn stressed the

political nature of the visit, during which Carstens is expected to discuss Afghanistan, the Iraq-Iran war and oil prices with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and other Indian government leaders. Carstens is the second West German president to visit India. Former head of state Helmut Luehke made a similar trip at the end of 1962.

Pakistani hijacker releases kids, women

ISLAMABAD, March 4 (AP) — A woman and children among 148 hostages aboard a Pakistan jetliner hijacked to Kabul Afghanistan, have been released, an official spokesman said Wednesday. However, Kabul authorities refused permission to a Pakistan International Airlines plane that was being sent to pick up 18 women and nine children freed, the official said.

It took off from Rawalpindi at 1:40 (09:30 GMT) local time and was airborne for 4 minutes when the Afghan refusal came, the spokesman said, adding that it was not known whether it had entered Afghan airspace.

The hijacker, who claimed he had 20 accomplices, released the women and children after Pakistan gave in to a demand that announce he was not a member of executive Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's banned Pakistan People's Party (PPP), as was earlier stated by official sources.

State-run radio and television networks Pakistan reported his denial of PPP affiliation and said the hijacker identified himself as member of another pro-Bhutto group, the "Alam-e-Zulfikar" or "Flag of Zulfikar."

Identifying himself as Muhammad Alar gir, the hijacker has demanded the release relatives and other political workers arrested in Karachi and has asked that the plane flown to Iran, although his final destination was not certain, an official source said.

A Pakistani spokesman said the released hostages were taken by local authorities at Kabul hotel and that a three-member Pakistani negotiating team in the Afghan capital was continuing efforts to secure the release of the remaining 121 persons still aboard the aircraft.

He said all women and children, held about 44 hours, had been released about officials earlier had given a different number of women and children among the 148 passengers and crewmen. There was no independent confirmation, but the spokesman presumed that an American was believed aboard the PIA jetliner, tentatively identified as Deborah Leighton Weisner, among those freed.

13 more quit Thai coalition

BANGKOK, March 4 (AFP) — The Social Action Party (SAP), largest in Gen Prem Tinsulanonda's three-party coalition Wednesday resigned from the government team after a week-long government crisis. The move involves 13 ministers and deputy ministers, mainly economists in Gen Prem year-old 37-strong cabinet.

A SAP spokesman told newsmen Wednesday that the party's Deputy Premier Economic Affairs Boonchu Rojanasathien led 12 other SAP ministers in handing resignations to Gen. Prem. Shortly after an announcement, party ministers were reported to be packing up files.

Japanese firm develops two-minute cancer test

TOKYO, March 4 (AFP) — Japan's Shubishi Chemical Industries has announced has developed an optical "two-minute" test to detect cancer. The company said the blood sample taken from a patient is mixed with a corpuscular polystyrene reagent — a protein produced in the body to neutralize an antigen — containing an antibody which reacts to a specific protein present when a man is suffering from cancer.

The system will cost 5 to 8 million (about \$25,000 to \$40,000), about a quarter of the cost of the existing isotope and enzyme method which takes one or two days to determine if a patient is suffering from cancer.

The company said it plans to apply for government license this month for the manufacture and sale of the system and market it autumn. It has also applied to the United States, European countries and other industrial countries to a full-scale system.

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ment and thus to consider the violation of any of them incompatible with the Algiers Agreement;

— Re-establish friendly and good-neighborly relations and prevent any outside intervention in the region.

After talks with Iranian official the goodwill mission flew into Baghdad to discuss its proposals.

During five-hour stopover in the Iranian capital members of the mission met President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, and attended midday prayers with Ayatollah Khomeini.

On arrival in Tehran on Jeddah Wednesday morning Habib Chatli, secretary-general of the OIC which set up the mission said its members would "continue shuttle visits between Tehran and Baghdad until

the talks reach a final conclusion." Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat, who preceded the other eight members of the mission, said on his arrival in Tehran he was "very optimistic." Pars news agency reported, in spite of a number of hard-line statements by Iranian officials earlier this week.

Tuesday night Arafat handed a report on the mission's negotiations so far to president Bani-Sadr, and it was studied by the Iranian Defense Council before the rest of the mission arrived Wednesday morning on its second visit to Tehran. Iranian executive affairs Minister Behzad Nabavi told a press conference Tuesday that Iran ruled out any ceasefire or armistice before the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory.

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